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ADD-ON ISSUE

APRIL 1986

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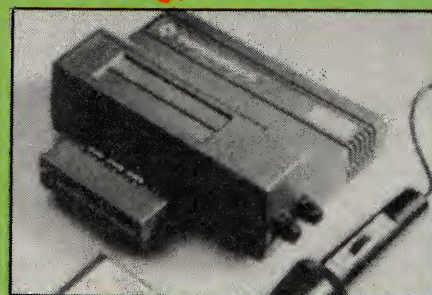
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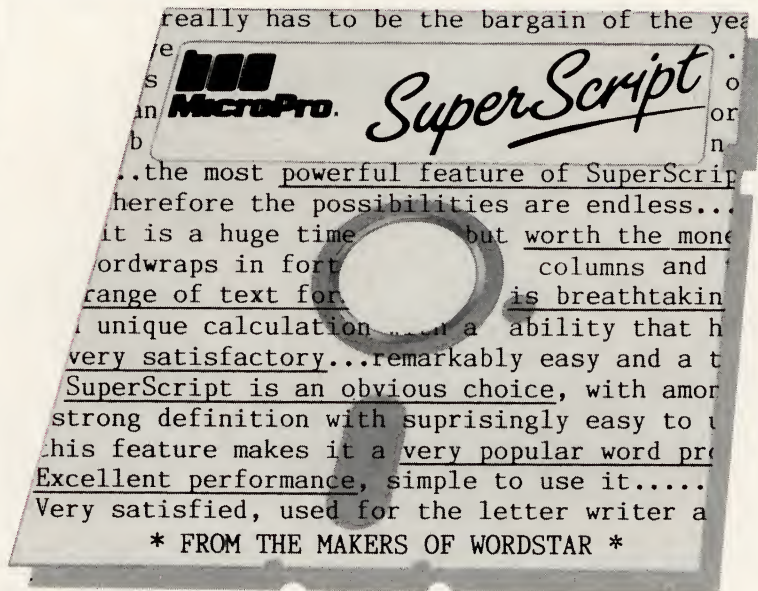
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The Hi-Technology And Computers In Education Exhibition 1986.

While most of Commodore were busy spouting the praises of the 'All singing, All dancing' Amiga at the Which Computer? Show in Birmingham, a few were at the London Barbican for the smaller, but much more specialised, Education Show.

Last year this show attracted 15,000 people, of which a large percentage are schools or users who will be buying computers not for their amazing specification, but for the software they offer.

However impressive the Amiga is, showing demonstrations of bouncing balls and high resolution animation is not going to sell the computer to schools who need it to control scientific tests in laboratory conditions.

Apart from the almost total domination of the BBC computers (with a truly amazing amount of new software), one good sign for Commodore was that there really was interest in their range of computers. Not only the

Amiga, but the 64, the 128 – and also still importantly – the Pets.

With the huge budget they have, Schools must be convinced of the advantages of Commodore, otherwise the already shaky financial position it is in could get noticeably worse.

When I asked the Commodore representative what, if any, educational software was in the pipeline for the Amiga – he seemed stumped and simply explained that the machine was new. This is not how to sell a product that, with the right software could fit in perfectly in such an educational environment.

On the 64/128 side there was some excellent looking networking systems and some well prouced software. If this will be enough to push Commodore harder into the educational market I'm not sure, but without software for the Amiga they are already pushing a lost cause.

Francis Jago

7th OFFICIAL COMMODORE SHOW

Commodore UK have commissioned Database Publications Ltd to organise and promote this year's official Commodore show. Unlike one recent show, this one WILL be held at the Novatel Complex, Hammersmith!

The show is aimed at all Commodore users, and naturally the amazing Amiga will be there.

CCI will of course have a strong presence at the show, which is set to run from the 9th to the 11th of May.

Comments...

Dear Reader,

This month sees the announcement of the 7th Commodore Show. It looks from early reports likely to be the best and most interesting yet. It is important as a showcase for everything for Commodore Computers, whether for owners or suppliers.

CCI is preparing its own contribution to the show which will contain lots of benefits for our readers. So watch for the news of the Show in forthcoming issues of CCI.

No doubt at the Show there will be the stands of all the companies who sell Commodore games. Just a short while ago, there was a multitude of games houses. Taskset, Romik, Redshift and many others were once powerful, well-known names in the shops. They have disappeared in the software industry shake-out of the end of 1984 and throughout 1985. It is still going on with the company that owns Adventure International this month announcing it is going into liquidation.

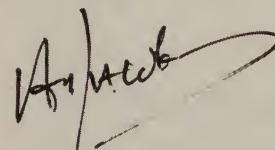
Many other games houses have also gone, but their labels have been bought up and absorbed into a small number of companies. The real spread of games house ownership has been substantially reduced to the growing power of four or five major organizations. Some of them own six or more labels under which they release games. Those organizations, it seems, are already controlling an extraordinary proportion of the games market, and it may grow. Is this good for the Commodore owner?

Some would say that there were too many small companies producing poor material and in a 'market economy' the weak go to the wall. But there are others who doubt that this narrow dominance is the best thing for the buyer. They feel that the lessening of real competition may well limit choice and quality.

The big battalions have obvious advantages in resources for marketing and selling, but large organizations are not always renowned for their creativity, nor for their willingness to step away from the conventional and try something new. It is also generally recognised that too much power in too few hands is rarely good for the consumer.

For those who are concerned by the trend toward concentration of the market, I can say as an independent publication, CCI sees one of its tasks as offering you the information and knowledge that will give you the greatest freedom of choice, especially at a time when it may be in danger of being limited.

Yours sincerely,
Antony H Jacobson
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NEW COMMODORE CENTRE



Gultronic, the largest independent Commodore dealer in the UK with a turnover of more than 10M, has just opened a specially equipped Commodore centre within their Tottenham court Road branch in London.

Convinced that Commodore are the company to stay with,

they have invested £25,000 in the centre. Let's hope that it succeeds!

Gultronic director, Sam Tulsiani, says: "Commodore products are of a high standard, with a good range and the company is stable, that is why we decided to invest in the centre."

COMPUTER USERS LIST

Kingsgraphic, a Hampshire based company, is forming a list of computer enthusiasts - to enable them to get in touch with like minded people. The register is designed to be especially useful to people with modems.

To get in touch with Kingscraft and become a part of this excellent idea, contact them at the following address: 29, Seymour Close, Chandlers Ford, Hants SO5 2JE, enclosing an SAE.

WAPPING BLOW!


Although Mr Murdoch (Rupert to his Pals) is claiming the glory of hi-tech printing left, right and centre, he has also experienced the annoying side! Having equipped all the reporters on the times with little portable computers to enable them to send copy down the phones,

he has had to revert to good old fashioned methods. Why, I hear you cry? Mainly due to the fact that the computer to receive all these calls is in Grays Inn and, as we all know, Murdoch is in Wapping.

Ahh well!!

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When you realise that there are probably more Commodore and other computers in the US than in the rest of the world put together, you understand why most computing products start and spread outwards from here. No matter how creative other countries' programs and designers can be, the sheer size of the US market dominates world demand both in home and business computing.

That is not to say non-American products can't make it here, especially in the games world. A couple of games created in the UK are bringing screams of delight coast to coast. Mastertronic, the international low price label, has released disk versions of *Golden Talisman* and *The Last V8* for just \$9.99 each. They're selling like crazy. One of the American games producing a furore here and not yet released abroad is Infocom's big new 128 adventure: *A Mind Forever Voyaging*. This is their largest adventure yet, with 200 rooms and a vocabulary of 1,700 words.


Big games

Electronic Arts have released a sequel to their award-winning *Seven Cities of Gold: Africa 1890*. Stomping your way through the Dark Continent, you inherit the diary of a madman and set out to find the tomb of a pharaoh. It's no pushover as you have 11 million square miles crammed into your computer. On the way you've got to steer up 17 rivers, sail 10 cities, learn the ways of 22 tribes to say nothing of hacking through jungle and swamp, and exploring deserts and mountains. It's all claimed to be geographically accurate!

Surfing is big here, especially on the west coast, and *Surfer Magazine* has brought out an arcade style game where you control a surfer riding the waves of a stormy sea. I get seasick on a ferry boat, so I haven't tried it, but they tell me it's got the 'real life dynamics' of surfing. If that's what turns you over.....

A new idea from Activision is the Computer Firework Kit, with which you can build your own Fourth of July whizz-bang display. Still a top seller is *Night Mission Pinball*, winner of the Electronic Games Arcade Award for Computer Graphics as long ago as 1983.

Two games not yet on the market but tipped as humdingers are *'The Halley Project'*, which puts the player in command of a space ship as it navigates through what they claim is an accurate simulation of the solar system; and *'The Other Side'*, a complete world crisis challenge between two superpowers. The game has been designed, very appropriately, to run on two different computers at the same time in separate locations. The two computer option means



players use a modem and can play without ever being in personal contact with the opponent. Tom Snyder, the designer, says its objective is to make peace, not war. Copies to be sent to Reagan and Gorbachov A.S.A.P.

Flight simulation in the US has buzzed off into the wide blue yonder. Two highly complicated simulations seem to be spearheading the field. The newly released *JET* (just available I hear in Europe) and *Stunt Flyer*, which lets you into the recondite airborne world with such aerobatics as *Immermans*, *Hammerheads* and *Cuban 8* turns and rolls (I can't even think of what a Cuban 8 roll is without getting queasy!). A third solid simulation seller is *Microjet*. An interesting and successful simulation add-on idea is *Sublogic's Scenery* disk. The contour and geography-accurate disks cover the entire continental US including faithful representations of major airports, audio-navigational aids, cities, highways etc. Each disk of a particular area - there are 12 in all - will set you back \$19.95.

Apple emulation

The US Commodore owner has an insatiable appetite for other add-ons, too. You can now get access to the huge amount of soft and hardware available for Apple II computers and use it on your 64 or 128 through an Apple II emulator. And they throw in an extra 64K ram, four selectable C64 cartridge slots, a non-dedicated 8 bit parallel port and the use of standard audio cassette decks. But that little lot will throw you back around \$500!

A new program has been published by Timeworks that lets you print out standard spreadsheet programs sideways - wider than your printer paper. Some very well regarded integrated home and business software is being produced by Tri-Micro in California that covers the Plus/4 as well as other Commodores. There is also a new cartridge expander that plugs into the cartridge slot of the 64 and permits use of up to three cartridges at a time. Fischer - Technik have launched a robotics construction kit at \$199 that includes everything to build robots to teach computing, process materials, sort objects, compute graphs, and it has a solar cell that tracks the sun. Sublogic are selling for \$49.95 a utility back-up program that literally takes a 'snapshot' of a computer's

memory. It's been called 'the hacker's delight'. I leave you to guess why.

QuantumLink

If, on the other hand, you would rather hear the info straight from the horse's mouth, you can go through Commodore QuantumLink (Link, Sir Clive, not Leap. Ed). QuantumLink is an interactive videotex network that among other things lets you put questions and queries direct to Commodore's own designers and executives. Obscenities get deleted I suppose.

You may be surprised to learn that the somewhat antiquated Pet is still on sale here at around \$750. But Plus/4 owners elsewhere would find the machine better served here than in most countries. Commodore alone has more than 60 software titles available for the Plus/4, including games like *'The Hitch Hiker's Guide To The Galaxy'* and *The Zork Trilogy*. Trimicro is running a Plus/4 Club.

The printed best seller of the moment is Howard Sams' "Official 128 Book". However it would not be the good old US of A if there were not some real bananas around. How does it grab you to munch edible computer 'chips'? They are excellent reproductions of the silicon real things, but made of chocolate, for eating not computing. And are you a jogging buff? Then what bout a Puma Computer Training sneaker? The shoe has built-in an electronic sensor and stop watch to record your distance and time. When you stagger into your home, you can plug it into your 64 or 128 and it will come up with encouraging programmed graphics and other information to chart your progress toward fitness! And, believe it or not, they've come up with the computer equivalent of the Pet Rock! It is a coloured, soft material cover, complete with eyes, nose and naturally even a gap for the cable 'tail', all to keep your sweet little electronic 'mouse' from the cold. Made, where else?, in the USA

Joe Gene Parris

Next month our US correspondent covers more 'Made in the USA.' and discovers the Computerised Politician.

Only in America - a soft cover for your mouse! (Top: Computer training sneaker)



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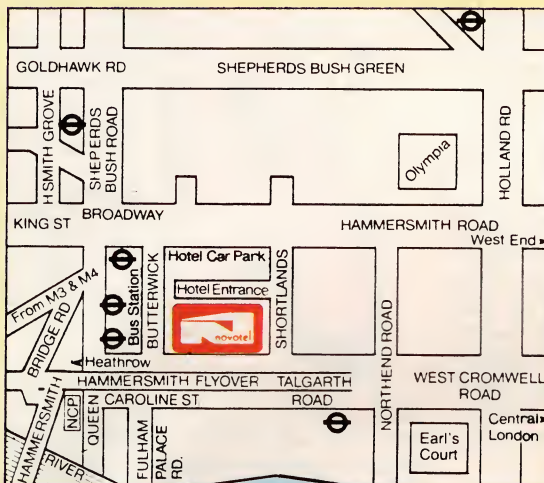
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CCI 4

A few years ago, a lot of my spare time was spent wandering aimlessly around arcades. Recently I decided to return to my old haunts to see what's changed. Everything!!!! Las Vegas, one of the best and most up to date arcades in the West End, together with The Crystal Rooms, have really gone hi-tec. No longer are there new machines side by side with old favourites. In all my travels I only saw one or two Defenders.

Atari, still one of the largest arcade games producers, use their fabulous System I to produce games of consistantly high quality that have been wowing everyone in the arcades for months. Games such as Paperboy and Gauntlet (more on this one later) fully utilize the amazing graphics. I am reliably informed, however, that Atari are soon to release a high resolution Paperboy using a new system (imaginatively called System II). If they call Paperboy lo-res, then I have to see the new one, it should be totally awesome!!!

What seems to be happening in the arcades reflects in many ways the general state of the computer games market; no longer are people satisfied with a good blast, now they need outstanding graphics, catchy theme tunes and realistic sound effects. In the home computer market this can only be achieved to a certain degree – though some of the products on the 64 stretch its limits amazingly – but with arcade machines only needing to do one task, the graphics and sound can be stretched to limits that do not only impress but astound!

In my view, the best way to show the recent developments in the arcades is to tell you about a few of my personal favourites, not necessarily the newest games, but definitely the best!

Perhaps the most noticeable game in any arcade is the full – ride on – version of Sega's 'Hang-On'. Being an avid motorcyclist, and until recently the proud owner of a 350 powervalve, this game had me hooked right from the beginning. Although people have criticised it for being little more than a glorified Pole-Position, I believe that the specifications of this machine prove how brilliant it really is.

'Hang-On' can be played by anyone who has ever watched a motorcycle Grand Prix and wondered what it must feel like. To do really well you must lean the simulator left and right, as well as

a combination to wizz through the chicanes. Graphically the game is excellent, with attention to detail being obvious throughout. Touches such as the racers with whom you compete having working brake lights make it truly realistic!

To produce a game of this standard, with backgrounds of this detail, smoothness of movement, and sampled sounds (in stereo too!!) takes some pretty impressive hardware, and 'Hang-On' certainly has it! To control the program it has two 16-bit and one 8-bit processor – to put that into perspective, that's the power of two IBM PC's and a 64! It has 512K purely for graphics, with another 32K for colours. The actual program is 192K long, and the stereo sound and music are independantly controlled.

All this combines to provide the

most realistic simulator I have ever played, though at between 30-50p a game it's certainly not cheap!

Bouncer is the newest game from new company, Entertainment Sciences, and from what I have seen and heard they ought to be around for quite a while! Bouncer is the first game I have seen from them, and uses a pretty novel setting as the storyline for the game.

As the 'Bouncer' for the Ritz Bar, you must keep control over the cast of characters, making sure that any trouble makers are dealt with. Using a trackball, as pioneered on Missile Command, the movement is ultra-smooth. Entertainment Sciences promise to put out a new game every six months on the system used to create this game – RIP (Real-time Image Processor). This system again uses three processors and has more than a mega-byte of memory (four times what the

Amiga comes with as standard!).

Nemesis is the newest game from Konami. As it has only just been released I have yet to see it, but from what I've heard, and the screen shots I've seen it should be really impressive – to say the least, with some really clear high resolution coloured graphix to aid your travels through outer space. You play Captain Nemo, and must discover the lost Armada!!

If you go into an arcade at the moment, and there is one



machine with a bigger crowd around it than any other (by miles if I'm there!), the game causing this stir will, more than likely be 'Gauntlet' by Atari. As a game 'Gauntlet' dates back to a very early Atari 800 game, in which up to four players could travel around a maze, killing various baddies. Recently it has been converted to Atari's System 1, and now it's fabulous!

Gauntlet is a 'Multiple-player' game, meaning that up to four people can play each taking on the role of an individual character (Thor the Warrior, Thyra the Valkyrie, Merlin the Wizard or Questor the Elf), either helping each other, or hindering!

The actual object of the game is to survive attacks from the wide variety of monsters while competing for various food, treasure and potions which will

one type particular game. In the last year 'Trivial Pursuits' has been the biggest selling game in the world, by miles! It was, therefore, only a matter of time before someone decided to put the test of the irrelevant into the arcades! Surprisingly it has almost immediately become a success. In the Crystal Rooms in Leicester Square, people were testing their knowledge almost constantly, even at 30p a go.

Only in pubs have I seen machines such as Ace's Trivia, where it is possible to win money by being knowledgeable (though I think it's probably a great deal cooler to lose!)

That the arcades affect games produced for home machines is an undeniable fact - Elite's recently released Commando was a direct conversion from the hugely successful arcade game, and Ocean (or rather Imagine) have signed a huge deal with Konami for the rights to convert games such as 'Comic Bakery', Ping-Pong' and 'Mikie'.

What we have to hope is that the amount of work put into producing the home computer version is comparable to that put into the arcade version, otherwise the transition will prove fruitless. With computers such as the Amiga currently having leisure software written for them, we have to hope that with such amazing potential, people will produce games that use the machine to the full. In theory, an Amiga could faithfully reproduce almost all of the games in the arcade, including stereo

sound, but will people be willing to put in the amount of time and effort required? I'm not sure, but I really hope so!

Finally I'd like to give you my tips for what will be the hot conversions of mid to late '86 - maybe even earlier (if companies get their acts together). Capcom's latest arcade game, 'Gunsmoke', which looks amazingly like 'Commando' with a western backdrop (although I'm assured that the firing method is revolutionary), should be released soon, perhaps by Elite?

I can't see anyone doing justice to 'Hang-On', but maybe someone will try. Atari must soon realise the marketability of 'Gauntlet' and 'Peter Pack Rat', both of which could make really fab 64/128 games (and Amiga Gauntlet would have me flying to the States to get it!) Konami seem to have a deal with Imagine, so hopefully Nemesis will be converted, as it looks as if it could be an AWESOME blast.

Well that's all for this month. Do feel free to write to me with any queries or comments, and I'll be back next month, (and hopefully on a regular basis - if I get enough letters!!) reporting on any new games, and hopefully having played Nemesis. I'll also have a full look at Space Harrier, which is a full in simulator, with multi directional movement and great sound and graphics!

Francis 'Felix' Jago.

DES

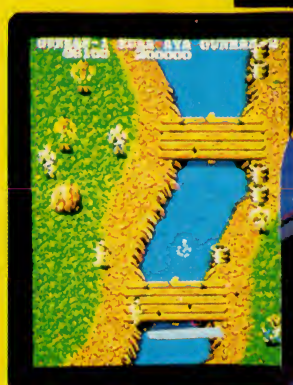
help you extend your game. Longevity of your life depends on your 'Health', which decreases as time goes by, as well as if you touch any of the monsters.

Graphically 'Gauntlet' is truly superb. Although it is 'only' an Atari System 1 game, the characters are really well defined, each having his or her own features - speed, armour, weapons, etc. The way to really make the most of 'Gauntlet' is to get a group of friends together, go to your local machine and have a team game, blasting your way through to level 8. The sound is also really excellent with great speech that really has a function (including telling you which of your team made the mistakes with phrases such as "Wizard shot the food"!).

In my view, 'Gauntlet' is the best arcade game around at the moment. Being able to join in a game at any time, irrespective of what anyone else is doing, means that many people can learn to play the game faster - and meet other 'Gauntlet' fans.

The last game I want to talk about is more a genre, rather than

Astonishing Action!



Have Modem — will communicate

Speed in the delivery of information has been the main consideration of communications technology in recent years. This has led to far greater access to news, but in a country which boasts of free speech there have been few opportunities for the ordinary person to be involved in, or to comment on, what information is being received.

Interactive viewdata services such as Micronet and Prestel are changing this situation. Subscribers can not only receive information, but also put forward their views on a chosen subject without external censorship.

Micronet introduced a number of chatlines at the end of last year giving subscribers an arena in which to make their view on subjects known and to discuss them with others. To understand how these chatlines work, imagine Citizen Band radio. An operator puts out a message and anyone who is tuned into that channel can respond. Similarly, with the chatlines, a subscriber puts up a message and anyone can reply.

For example, if you have very strong views on the current political situation, you could make your views known to the other 80,000 subscribers. It could be the start of a heated debate, or you could find someone who shares your opinions.

This method of communication breaks down the barriers of prejudice, whether it be social or racial. When you communicate via a chatline, you do not know your fellow subscribers sex, race, age or social standing — unless they choose to tell you so. (Indeed I have heard of a confirmed male chauvinist who boasted of his new found micro pal with whom he enjoyed intelligent conversations about the finer points of computing. It was several months before he discovered that his 'equal' was, in fact, a woman!)

Widening horizons

On a more serious note, this means of communication widens the horizons of the disabled and allows them greater contact with the able-bodied.

It has certainly been a godsend to seventeen-year-old John Bye. Involved in an accident at the age of eleven, John was left disabled and non-vocal. For the first year after the accident, he could communicate only through a self-taught sign language. John then got a Cannon communicator which enabled him to punch out what he wanted to say on Ticker



*Illustrating just a few of
Micronet's services.*

tape. This was frustrating in terms of the time taken to tap out a message and also in holding people's attention. In 1983, John and his father became members of Micronet and, for the first time since the accident, John can communicate freely with his father from the school at which he is a boarder.

Micronet currently have around 10 chatlines ranging from general to specific subjects. Two Daisy chatlines provide an arena for general topics and general computer conversations. Messages are

achieved for up to 100 messages at a small cost.

A further two Quickchat lines cater for general computer talk and micro specific subjects. Then there are politics, religion and gay lines.

Quickchat Gay line has quickly established itself as the most popular of Micronet's chatlines with 10,000 accesses during its first week on-line without any advance publicity.

The least popular chatline is the Religion line, apparently with the exception of two regulars — The Fat Nun and Eric the Bone (Hmmm!?)

Another on-line attraction is the Celebrity Chatline which brings enormous response from Micronetters, especially when they have the chance to ask questions of a pop star such as Feargal Sharkey — a Micronet member himself.

As an indication of the popularity of the chatlines, the number of times each line was accessed was monitored over a 10 day period. The results were as follows:

General Quickchat lines — accessed 80,000 times
Micro Specific chatlines — accessed 53,000 times
Gay lines — accessed 25,000 times
Politics chat lines — accessed 15,000 times
Religion chatline — accessed 13,000 times

A forum for conversation

All the chatlines enable subscribers to contact like-minded people. In addition to providing a forum for serious conversation, chatlines can combat loneliness and establish new friendships.

Micronet is a 24-hour service and insomniacs have a special spot of their own, the Midnight Micronetters. Late at night these people meet on-line to chat away the midnight hours. Interestingly, it is this line that is most used by members of both sexes.

If a subscriber wants to take his pet subject further, then the option is there with Gallery. Here members can produce and design their own magazine with a potential audience of the total membership base.

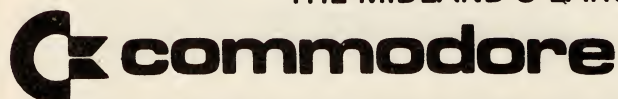
Chatlines are only a small part of Micronet and the communications world. We will be keeping you up to date with the latest developments in future issues. Until then, log on and keep chatting!

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ROCKY IV (PG)

Most of us stopped believing in Santa Claus a long, long time ago. It seemed just a *little* passe to have a penchant for fairies, witches and such. But you may just want to resurrect those old associations for Rocky IV.

There's little point in relating the plot.....if you've read Jack and the Beanstalk, you'll know the score. The little guy takes on the invincible dragon (or Drago in this case) in the cause of truth, right and justice.... except this particular Wicked Witch of the West (or the "Siberian Express" as he is affectionately known) carries enough muscle to be charged for excess baggage.

Sylvester Stallone's current stable of screen gladiators, Rocky and Rambo, like all heros of old, need sagas of causes fought and battles won. And while battling away, both display the same flaw. Stallone's offerings now owe much to the Brothers Grimm (and Grimm is a pretty apt description of Rambo). The basic predictability which makes escapism so appealing here becomes trite and clinched to the extent where it becomes unintentionally comic.

The heart of a good tale is that it creates a tangible dream. It evokes the exciting, the unattainable, the fantastic. The Rocky Quartet tapped this successfully, but the weaknesses of the latest offering suggests that its time for our All-American hero to retire after slugging it out in parts 2,3 and 4 and that goes for Rambo too (and 3 and 4).

If you love Hans Christain Andersen, you'll love this.
S.G.



CAPTION: Your round or mine? (Is it Drago's career or his vodka that's on the rocks?)

YEAR OF THE DRAGON (18)

Michael Cimino is known for a certain type of direction – violent – and, in Year of the Dragon, he certainly lives up to his reputation.

Mickey Rourke, in my view one of the best actors to come out of America recently, plays Captain Stanley White, a "tough New York cop". Having made a reputation for getting his own way, Stanley is assigned to "clean-up" an ever increasingly violent Chinatown.

Perhaps this is where the film starts to lose its way. The conflicts between Stanley and both the gangsters and his superiors seem to pale in comparison with the overall unpleasant feel of "if it's yellow, kill it!".

Year of the Dragon is a film that involves the viewer very easily, and as such provokes criticism. Rourke was not the perfect choice for this film – his talent is too raw, yet somehow he manages to drag you down to the level of animal instinct.

This film is an extremely fast paced thriller, it has its failings, but overall it is involving and enjoyable. **FKJ**



Captain White reacts in typical fashion!

A ZED AND TWO NOUGHTS (15)

Reality is not, as someone said, easy to live with, nor is it easy to watch if it is the tortured reality of a film director who has been hailed as a wayward genius. Peter Greenaway made a sensational debut into bigtime movie making with 'The Draughtman's Contract'. It was a cold, vicious murder mystery set in 18th Century England. You either loathed or loved it. I know one girl who has sat mesmerised 12 times through the video. I found its wild imagination and sharp intelligence fascinating enough to manage three time viewing, but eventually I found Greenaway's inhuman view of unpleasant reality too chilling.

His new movie goes a step further in demanding belief in the incredible, but he succeeds by the sheer technical brilliance of a film that will undoubtedly take its place among required viewing for any moviegoer in search of directorial excellence.

Prepare yourself, however, for the extraordinary. The wives of twin zoologist brothers are killed in a car accident caused by a low-flying swan. (A swan? Are you serious? Ed). The driver, a beautiful European woman loses a leg in the accident and subsequently – and possibly unnecessarily – the other is amputated too. The two brothers both fall in love with the mysterious amputee who later bears their twin babies. The twin zoologists also become obsessed with death and decay and film the process of change in animals from the zoo. When the legless mother of their children dies, they commit suicide.

There is also a number of very peculiar minor characters to add to the bizarre atmosphere. I told you Greenaway had a tortured imagination!

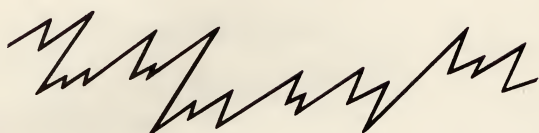
If film technique interests you, this is not a movie to miss. The camera work is outstandingly clever, particularly the speeded-up film of change in the zoo animals, which is probably computer controlled. In fact, it all resembles a totally machine-made film. It is as if a computer had been programmed with a random selection of different elements, given its technological head and come up with a disconcerting, inhuman combination which is being presented as a 'normal' movie.

Could Mr. P Greenaway himself be a figment of some computer's movie fan style artificial intelligence? Is 'A Zed and Two Noughts' about the duality of personality we all possess, or is it really about the process of film making? See it yourself and decide. Don't ask me, I've only seen it once – so far. **A.J.**



A bizarre character from a bizarre film.

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Spotlight

on C16 + Plus/4 products

In response to growing demand, CCI is compiling a list of all C16 and Plus/4 products – both software and hardware. More follows next month!

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Insights Into the Plus/4

Aspects of RS232 are the main subject covered by Bill Donald in this month's insights into the PLUS/4

PART III

Oops, red face time; I gave you the pin-out details of the PLUS/4 Expansion Port in the first article of this series (see January 1986 issue) but somehow forgot to include the pin-out diagram. You will note that it is similar to the VIC-20 and C64 ports with the exception of additional pins, taking the total up to 50. The main reason for this appears to be prevention of using the incorrect external card.



justification. Where the Commodore home computers differ from the standard lies in operating voltage levels. The VIC-20, C64, PLUS/4 and C/128 all have their RS232 interfaced at the User Port — note that this is not possible with the C16 due to the lack of a User Port. RS232 voltage levels are +12 volts and 0 volts, whereas the voltage available on the User Ports is only +5 volts and 0 volts, in other words, TTL voltages.

This voltage level problem is not too important if you were interfacing one of the above-mentioned machines, provided that

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I had intended the previous article to be the last on the PLUS/4, but the Editor had deemed otherwise because of the interest these earlier articles had generated, so here I am again. I think I should make it clear that a good deal of this series is applicable to the C16 although there are two reasons why I have not been more explicit over this point. The first is that the C16 is essentially an entry-level machine and I have assumed that the purchasers of the C16 would not have the necessary knowledge to follow the series. My apologies if I have upset readers over this. The second and most compelling reason lies in the fact that I do not have a C16 and because of this I have no experience of exploring the operating system on it!

I have had a number of letters, mailboxes and personal discussions with PLUS/4 users who in the main want to know more about the RS232 abilities and general Commodore program compatibility of the machine. Unfortunately, there seems to be a general impression that the PLUS/4 will run C64 software and this is being used by unscrupulous or uninformed

dealers to sell PLUS/4's. This not true and clearly the dealer is in breach of the Sale of Goods Act. You should always insist, nay demand, a demonstration of any hardware and/or software configuration that you intend to buy. If it doesn't work properly or does not fulfill what you intended it to do then forget it, once the money has been handed over your position begins to weaken. Similarly, if you buy software on mail-order make it very clear IN WRITING what equipment you have and what you want the software to achieve, keep a copy of this.

OK, back to the PLUS/4 and RS232, I believe this started life as a communications protocol standard for data transmissions over telephone lines. Unfortunately, over the years the standard failed to keep pace with changes in hardware engineering and has become corrupted, some would say hopelessly, between different manufacturers of computers. Commodore themselves are as guilty of this pattern of degradation of the RS232 standard as anyone, although they would probably use cost as the

distance between the machines was kept to a reasonable length, realistically no more than 1 metre. The reason for this being that 5 volts is not a very great pressure and a voltage drop of more than 1 volt is going to cause signal mis-interpretation. The distance could be extended a little if heavy section conductors were used, ie 240 volt 13 amp cable, but you would then have the problem of trying to solder this on to the connector pins, very messy. If distance between the two Commodore machines was too great the best solution would be to buy a ready made RS232 interface for each which brings the voltage level up from TTL and for interfacing to true RS232 machines this would be essential unless you wanted to destroy the circuits within the Commodore.

There are any number of ways in which to lift the voltage up from 5 volts to 12 volts, and I mentioned in the last part of the series using the 1488 and 1489 line drivers and receivers. These are integrated circuits specifically designed for RS232 work and represent the most elegant way of doing it yourself since they cost less than £1.00

each. It is beyond the scope of this article to delve too deeply into the construction and use of circuits using components and I would suggest that you look in the direction of electronics if you are interested further.

The PLUS/4 RS232 facility is controlled by an ACIA (asynchronous communications interface adaptor) circuit located between addresses \$FD00 (64768) snf \$FD0F (64783). Because the PLUS/4 uses a true ACIA as opposed to a virtual one in the VIC-20 and C64 (these use internal KERNAL procedures to emulate the presence of an ACIA) there are considerable differences between the facilities offered to the programmer. The information that follows is strictly applicable to the PLUS/4 only, unless otherwise indicated. Also in the interests of clarity I will adhere to using BASIC where possible on this occasion.



The 6551 within the PLUS/4 is operated through two addresses, namely \$FD00 and \$FD01, these are the control and command register locations. The RS232 vectors are located at \$07CD (1997) to \$07D8 (2008).

The control register can be broken down into the following:-

- Bit 7** number of stop bits
- Bit 6/5** word length from 8 bits to 5 bits
- Bit 4** use internal or external clock
- Bit 3** transmission rate (baud)
- Bit 2**ditto.....
- Bit 1**ditto.....
- Bit 0**ditto.....

The command register is structured like this:-

- Bit 7/6/5** parity type
- Bit 4** duplex mode on/off
- Bit 3/2** transmitter interrupt handler
- Bit 1** receiver interrupt handler
- Bit 0** data terminal ready

An explanation of these register functions is complex and difficult to comprehend, however, for those readers who are interested I'll keep it simple. When data is transmitted using RS232, it is sent on a serial bus consequentially the ACIA has to be told the length of each 'packet' or word of data, the number of 'stop' bits used and which type of, if any, parity is used. Parity is an error detection routine and is described as odd or even. Duplex can be thought of as data verification by means of echoing back to the transmitter unit the data words received. It is not really necessary to go to deeply into the various permutations that can be achieved and sticking to standard transmission protocols is recommended, for instance the register configuration for basic ASCII transmission is 7 bits, even parity. For general details on programming the 6551 refer to '6502

Assembly Language Programming' — Leventhal — ISBN 0931988276 and '6502 Assembly Language Subroutines' — Leventhal & Saville — ISBN 0931988594.

If you want to program the 6551 within the PLUS/4 using machine code you should realise that the KERNAL routines of SAVE and LOAD are not permitted for device 2, the RS232 port. Details of the RS232 vector locations are as follows:-

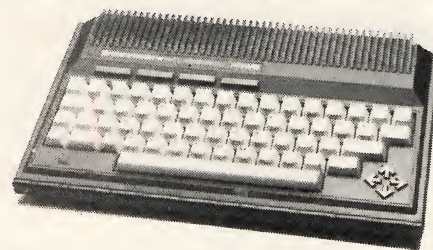
- \$07CD 1997 UOUTQ User character to transmit**
- \$07CE 1998 UOUTFG Flag for above : 0=empty 1=full**
- \$07CF 1999 SOUTQ System character to transmit**
- \$07D0 2000 SOUTFG Flag for above : 0=empty 1=full**
- \$07D1 2001 INQFPT Pointer to front of input queue**
- \$07D2 2002 INQRPT Pointer to rear of input queue**
- \$07D3 2003 INQCNT Number of characters in input queue**
- \$07D4 2004 ASTAT Temporary status for 6551 ACIA**
- \$07D5 2005 AINTMP Temporary status for input routine**
- \$07D6 2006 ALSTOP Flag for 'local' pause**
- \$07D7 2007 ARSTOP Flag for 'remote' pause**
- \$07D8 2008 APRES Flag for ACIA 6551 present on current address space**

There is also an extension to these vectors, a buffer running from \$07D9 (2009) to \$07E4 (2020) which appears to be for download routines, which I would guess to be such things as system protocols or program header data. The RS232 input queue buffer starts at \$03F7 (1015) and finishes at \$0436 (1078).

The BASIC syntax for OPEN and CLOSE a channel to device 2 is unchanged from earlier Commodore machines. However, you can make use of the PLUS/4 by incorporating the extra bit values of the control and command registers. For information on programming in BASIC the RS232 facility on Commodore home computers refer to page 348 of the C64 'Programmers Reference Guide'.

The User Port RS232 pins are on the UNDERSIDE of the PCB and this configuration does not differ from other Commodore machines. I have listed below the details of the PLUS/4 RS232 port and modes available:-

- Pin Assignment Description Mode**
- A GND Chassis Ground 1 2**
- B ACK Received Carrier Signal Data 1 2**
- C PB0 Received Data 1 2**
- D PB1 Request to Send 1* 2**
- E PB2 Data Terminal Ready 1* 2**
- F PB3 Ring Indicator 3**
- H PB4 Received Line Signal 2**
- J PB5 Unassigned (connected to pin 6 6529) 3**
- K PB6 Clear to Send 2**
- L PB7 Data Set Ready 2**
- M PA2 Transmitted Data 1 2**
- N GND Signal Ground 1 2 3**
- Mode 1 3-line interface**
- Mode 2 X-line interface**
- Mode 3 User defined interface**



Note that the asterisk symbol '*' refers to those lines which are held high during Mode 1 (3-line) operation. I would also point out that Signal (or Logic) Ground is not the same as Chassis (or System) ground and it is advisable to keep them separated. The choice of mode is essentially determined by facilities you require. For instance, straight-forward one-way ASCII file transfer from a PLUS/4 to a C64 could be done on the simple 3-line mode. For more complex applications where a greater degree of control over the data flow was required, the X-line mode would be better, for example using a modem or interfacing to a non-Commodore machine. If you are uncertain as to which to use, start off with simplest first, it will either work first time or not at all.

I feel that I have now covered most of the aspects of RS232 on the PLUS/4 and now for something completely different as Monty Python would say (if you can remember that far back!). The PLUS/4 supports a disk drive DMA (direct memory access) interface which should mean very fast loading and saving cycles. I am still researching into this field and will publish my findings in CCI as soon as the work is completed. Commodore have released the 1551 disk drive in the UK which I believe uses this technique, however at the time of writing (January 1986) I have yet to lay my hands on one of these. Unconfirmed reports have it that there were only a few thousand of this drive ever manufactured which may account for the relative scarcity of this unit. It is certainly an interesting experiment since the new generation of Commodore 8-bit drives, viz. 1570, 1571 and 1572 revert back to the serial bus technique and achieve operating speed enhancements by means of increased data transmission speeds, the so-called 'burst' mode. I feel that such a term is stretching credibility somewhat since with sub 2.0 MHz clock speeds on the processors of machine and drive 'canter' mode would be more accurate in the way of describing the DOS of the new drives.

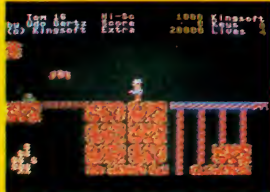
The PLUS/4 is a very maligned machine and is much more a programmers computer than the C64. The features of its hardware have more in common with the C128 than with the C64 and although it may not have been a commercial success, this is more functional failure of marketing rather than engineering. If you want some ideas for experiments with the PLUS/4 then let's see someone come up an implementation of the disk DMA, alternatively what about using your PLUS/4 as a RAM disk device for your main machine, or even a printer buffer?

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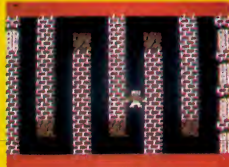


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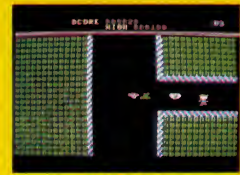


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BASIC

for beginners

PART III

You may have heard of or seen mentioned the word ARRAY. What is an ARRAY and what does it do? First, we must go back to last month's part of this series and briefly refresh our minds on variables. Variables are simply a means of allowing the user to define a quantity or value to a designated set of characters. In other words if you instructed the machine to regard the value of 1234 being equal to 'A' then everytime you used the variable 'A' the machine would take it that you mean the numeric value 1234. Similarly, you can also use words rather than numbers and manipulate these. All in all, variables are a convenient form of shorthand to us and easier for the machine to work with since the whole process takes up less memory.

For some applications it is convenient to use variables in the following form:-

A(1) A(2) A(3) A(4) A(5)
A(6) A(7) A(8) A(9) A(10)

Readers who are familiar with spreadsheets will recognise this layout. A spreadsheet allows you to place numbers or words into cells or individual blocks. These cells are arranged in a linear pattern across and down the screen and the cell contents can be moved to other cells or made to interact with other cells using the maths functions of the machine. If we use the above diagram as a simple model we could instruct the spreadsheet to add the contents of cell A(1) to cell A(5) and put the result in cell A(10).

Spreadsheets are the classic programming example of using subscripted variables, or variables which have a number-tag attached. I have shown below an actual spreadsheet for the benefit of readers who haven't seen one:-

UK PERSONAL COMPUTER MARKET - 1986

Machine	First Qtr	Second Qtr	Third Qtr
IBM PC	2,123	1,735	
IBM XT	4,561	3,930	
IBM AT	5,809	1,377	
Olivetti M21	1,087	1,006	
Olivetti M24	2,997	2,098	
APPLE Macintosh	3,981	2,077	
APRICOT Zen	1,091	4,595	
COMPAQ Deskpro	2,594	2,988	

Arrays are the subject of the lesson to be learnt in Bill Donald's third installment in our guide to basic programming

APRICOT Xi	1,022	1,341
COMMODORE PC	1,490	1,983
HP Vectra	498	1,003
PHILIPS Yes	972	1,723
ATARI 520ST	3	-
COMMODORE Amiga	827	6,829
CLONES	3,432	1,878
Quarterly Totals		

The above is a simple spreadsheet and if you overlay it with the first table you will start to understand the principles behind ARRAYS. Before we leave the spreadsheet, here are some of the things that are possible even with this limited amount of data and largely depending on the facilities offered by the individual spreadsheet program: you could find out which machine's have the lowest and highest sales in the specified quarter, calculate the percent increase or decrease between different machines in terms of sales, or even project the future sales by drawing in more columns on the right hand side.

The spreadsheet was the application that lifted personal computers out of the hands of the select few and into the hands of the masses, perhaps now you could imagine the effect that this program had when it was first seen.

There are a number of ways to create and fill an ARRAY—you could do it the long way and enter the values individually or, alternatively, fill it by reading values into the ARRAY under the control of a loop. The latter is the more sensible method and the following program demonstrates this:-

10 PRINT CHR\$(147)
20 SS\$ = "SUBSCRIPTS"
30 GOSUB 150

```

40 FOR N = 1 TO 5
50 READ A(N)
60 NEXT
70 INPUT "SELECT A
NUMBER, BETWEEN 1
AND 5";X
80 IF X>5 OR X<1 THEN
PRINT "INCORRECT
RANGE"
90 GOTO 70
100 PRINT "THIS
NUMBER GIVES YOU
YOUR WEIGHT IN
KILOS";A(X)
110 GOTO 70
120 END
130 DATA 123.45,6789.0,
9876.5,432.10,44
140 END
150 LG = LEN(SS$)
160 SV = 20 - LG/2
170 PRINT TAB(LG)SS$
180 RETURN
    
```

Those readers who have the benefit of the TRON (trace on function) will be able to follow the program through, but for those who haven't this is how the program works. Start at line 70 which invites you to select a number between a fixed value (line 80 checks to see that you have done this and line 90 will send you back if you have made a selection outside the range). The number you picked is assigned the variable X and this is formed into the array at the end of line 100. The loop on lines 40, 50 and 60 determine that the number of packets of data in the array is five and reads in the value of these packets from the data on line 130. Lines 150 to 180 handle matters at the screen output and the program finishes on line 120. Note that it is not necessary for you to read the program like the machine which follows the instructions in sequence,

you'll find that it is easier to break it down into modules. Also, you will have seen a new concept introduced, the READ DATA instruction. This is virtually self-explanatory and on this occasion we used a FOR NEXT loop to push the data into the array, machines with BASIC 3.5 or BASIC 7.0 could use the DO LOOP instruction.

An ARRAY can use a lot of memory space and the machine has to create and reserve these cells from being used up by other sections of your program. This is because although the cell could be empty during the initial stages of your program, it would be natural to assume that if you came across a whole section of memory filled with zero's then this memory is free for use, this is exactly what the machine would think too.

The Commodore BASIC Interpreter (the circuit inside the machine which controls the BASIC program) can accept you creating arrays without notification, provided the size of the array is less than 10 cells; any more than this and the machine expects you to inform it and it will then start to reserve tracts of memory for these. These arrays are created at the top of the BASIC memory, in other words on the C64 the BASIC memory limit is situated at address 40959 (or hexadecimal value \$9FFF), so your array on the C64 would start there and move DOWN in memory addresses. I mentioned that arrays are memory consuming so take note that the more arrays and strings that you create, the less memory you will have for your own program.

The technique of informing the BASIC Interpreter that you want to reserve memory for arrays is to use the DIM command which is shorthand for 'dimension', thus you instruct the machine to DIMension an array. It is obviously important that you notify the machine as soon as your program starts to run to protect memory areas, so it is the convention to issue these instructions in the first program lines. There is a limit on subscripted variables, otherwise you would end up with no memory if your arrays were too large and this limit on Commodore machines is 1000 per array.

For example, suppose that you wanted to catalogue your LP record collection and you have 25 titles to list, the syntax, or structure of the DIMension command would look like this:-

**100 DIM LP\$(25) or 100
DIM RECORDS\$(25)**

Be careful that you avoid the reserved variables applicable to your own machine (see your Users Manual if in doubt), otherwise you will get into a mess. Arrays may be DIMensioned together so assuming that you wanted to involve your cassettes and the cost, then the following would apply:-

**100 DIM RECORDS\$(25),
TAPES\$(25), COST(25)**

Note that COST is being defined as a numeric string, hence the absence of the dollar character variable. It is important

that once you have created the arrays that you do not try to alter them afterwards during the course of a program. There are occasions when this is difficult, so work on the principle of making them too big to start with and then cutting them down after testing the program to see the minimum required. If you do try to re-arrange the arrays after creation, the error message 'REDIM'D ARRAY' will appear on the screen.

The memory of your machine after running with a number of arrays tends to take on the appearance of a lump of Swiss cheese. By this I mean that large sections of memory are in use interspersed with dead areas which are for the most locked up. You can reclaim this memory back by issuing the command FRE(0), either in direct mode or program mode. The action of reclaiming memory is called 'garbage collection' and the effects of this can be quite dramatic. It really depends on just how much garbage there is to be cleaned up but it can mean the machine locking up for several minutes in severe conditions. In fact the C64 and VIC-20 were notably weak in this respect, whereas the newer machines such as the C128, PLUS/4 and C16 can operate their garbage collection quite quickly. Deciding when to invoke garbage collection under program control can be tricky, the best opportunity could be when the user has to spend some time reading a screen display of text or graphics.

If you go back to the first diagram you will notice that it has the structure of 'row' and 'columns', the columns being the lines running down the page, whilst the rows being those going across the page. Spreadsheets use this as part of their terminology although in mathematical terms it is known as a matrix. The arrays or matrices that we have looked at have been purely two-dimensional, in other words across and down, there is another type, the three-dimensional array. This concept can be a little difficult to grasp at first so we'll go straight into the syntax and then look at this afterwards.

**100 DIM RECORDS\$(
(50,2) a two dimensional
array
200 DIM TAPES\$(50,2,4)
a three-dimensional array**

Thus our two-dimensional array for RECORDS has a structure of 50 rows and 2 columns whilst the three-dimensional array for TAPES has the same 50 rows and 2 columns with an additional 'page depth' of 4. Just in case your application is memory conscious the following figures apply to arrays:-

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| 1. Array Name | 5 bytes |
| 2. Individual Dimension | 2 bytes |
| 3. Integer Variable Element | 2 bytes |
| 4. Numeric Variable Element | 5 bytes |
| 5. String Variable Element | 3 bytes |
| 6. Character in a String | 1 byte |

Multi-dimensional arrays find extensive use in the more exotic branches of maths, whereas you and I tend to bump into them in Adventure Games. In programming

terms, an Adventure Game could be regarded as on huge multi-dimensional array, hence the reason why two games are never quite the same because of the element of random selection within these arrays.

If we return to our number program you will notice two new program techniques to the series, the READ-DATA statement and for the FOR-NEXT loop. The READ-DATA statement is self-explanatory, you have diverted the program to find an element of data, collect it and use it by inserting this data into the specified part of your program. The data can be literally anything, numbers, characters, there is no restriction on the length of data and you can even mix it by having characters and numbers together. In computer jargon you have created a 'data table' and provided you exercise strict control over the fetch and execute instructions then your program shouldn't get into a mess. A common failure of beginners to BASIC using the READ-DATA command is forgetting to put the RESTORE instruction into the program when you need the machine to read through the data table again. Note that you cannot jump straight into the table at random, the entry point is fixed at the beginning.

FOR-NEXT commands are a device to create loops for either timing or counting a condition within your program. Your computer has an internal master clock which is named the system clock and the whole structure of digital computers such as yours depends upon extremely accurate timing. The source of this timing is derived from the mains frequency being compared to crystal circuit, any significant variation in this mains frequency can have a detrimental effect on the running of the computer. This is why machines destined for the North American market which has a mains frequency of 60Hz are different for UK machines running on 50Hz. It is largely a matter of the designed tolerance to fluctuations in the mains frequency, but running 60Hz electronic equipment on 50Hz may not be a good thing.

So FOR-NEXT loops use the internal clock to regulate them in terms of time, but the user can set the limit as to the number of counts that the loop performs. Loops are very common in computer programming and they serve a multiplicity of purposes. The most common use is to count and the syntax of a FOR-NEXT loop is quite easy to learn:-

**10 FOR A = 1 TO 100
(FOR variable = start TO
finish)
20 NEXT A (count and then
return)**

In the next part of this series I'll be going further into program loops and counters and exploring the more powerful version of the FOR-NEXT command, the DO-LOOP-ELSE. You can do some pretty impressive programming just using a few lines of code with loops. Remember to keep up your practicing until next month.

DODGY

DRAGON SKULLE



DRAGONSKULLE.

After brief journeys to IMHOTEP, and having been besieged by OUTLAWS, Ultimate have returned to their senses and released DragonSkulle – the fifth in the series of Sir Arthur Pendragon games.

In Dragonskulle you must lead Arthur on his quest to defeat the 'Ultimate forces of darkness and Chaos'. In true Ultimate fashion you must lead a chunky Sir Arthur around various rooms and caverns, collecting items that will further aid your adventure.

Although amazingly similar to the previous Pendragon games, Dragonskulle still has a certain attraction, as you work out how to get the shovel, and where to find the magical energy cloak.

Whether the inclusion of the 'trendy' icons is an advantage will depend on how you play the game, but for me they were more of a hindrance than a help.

The sound effects of Dragon skulle are almost all taken directly from the previous games,

although the tune sounds a little different!

Overall, I thought I would be really glad to see the return of this type of game from Ultimate, and indeed it is an awful lot better than their two non-Pendragon games, but unless you are a die-hard Arcventure player – there are many better games about!

Price: £9.99
Graphics: ***
Sound: **
Playability: **
CCIRating: DODGY
Contact: US Gold, Unit 10, Parkway Industrial Estate, Heneage Street, Birmingham B7 4LY. Tel: 021-359 3020.

IFFY

BACK TO THE FUTURE



BACK TO THE FUTURE

Well, well, well. Having given you a preview last month, and said that the game looked as if it could have some promise, the finished version arrived on my desk. After reading the lengthy instructions, I loaded the game and prepared to be astounded.

Unfortunately I wasn't. Activision – of which Electric Dreams are a subsidiary – have released some really good titles recently, but Back to the Future will not go down as their best.

The game sticks very closely to the line of the film, with you playing Marty, desperately trying to instigate a kiss between your mother, Lorraine and your father, George. If you actually manage this you will achieve your desired result and get BACK TO THE FUTURE.

Graphically, BTFF has some good points and some bad points. The scrolling is very smooth, and the digitised pictures of Marty and the Family are well represented, but the definition of the actual characters leaves a little to the imagination.

The sound was also quite good, with a version of the Power of

Love – Huey Lewis', not that dreadful Jennifer Rush thing – and a foot tapping version of Johnny Be Good.

Overall, BTFF is a good, if not excellent program. Its only real problem is that it looks as if it has been rushed a little. Obviously they did not want to release it too long after the film's initial impact, but a little more time could have led to an excellent game!

Price: £9.95
Graphics: ***
Sound: ***
Playability: ***
CCIRating: IFFY
Contact: Electric Dreams, 31 Carlton Crescent, Southampton, Hampshire SO1 2EW. Tel: 0703 229694.

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AWESOME



HARDBALL

When US Gold announced a licensing deal with Accolade, a new American company formed when some co-founders of Activision left to start a new company, I was extremely excited. I had heard a lot of really good things about the graphics and sound of the games produced by this company.

The first game I received was Hardball, an amazingly realistic baseball simulation – with truly

American touches! If you've never played Baseball before, then reading the instructions will prove essential, otherwise I found playing the game was the easiest way of learning.

To make the game more entertaining, Accolade have given various options of play, for one player vs a computer team, and for two players. However what makes the game so special is the outstanding graphics and attention to detail.

The contest is played over 10 innings, with you playing either the All Stars or the Champs. On starting the game, you are shown a close-up of the 'Pitcher', the 'Catcher', the 'Batter' and the 'Umpire'. If you are pitching you must choose what type of pitch you want to throw. Dependant on which pitcher you are playing you have a choice of Fastballs,

Curveballs, Sinkers, Screwballs and Offspeeds. Using these you must fool the batter into missing the pitch three times and thus striking out!

Animation of the large characters is superb, as is the map of the whole out-field, and I must admit that it the first sport simulation 'I have played which has taught me anything about sport.

Even the batter has a wide variety of options on what to do. Dependant on what the pitcher attempts to do you can decide how to hit the ball, or whether to 'Bunt' for the team.

If this doesn't go down as one of the best games of 1986, I will be most surprised, for it will take one hell of a sports game to beat this one!

Price: £9.95 Cassette.
£14.95 disk.

Graphics: *****

Sound: ****

Playability: ****

CCI Rating: AWESOME!

Contact: US Gold, Unit 10,
Parkway Industrial Estate,
Heneage Street, Birmingham B7
4LY. Tel: 021-359 3020.

CRISP



YOU THE MARSHALL OF THIS TWO-BIT TOWN?
WHAT'S IT TO YOU, PUNK?
YOU GOT A BURR UNDER YOUR SADDLE, BOY?
YES, SON, AND IT'S A PRETTY NICE TOWN.
YES. WHAT MAY I DO FOR YOU?

LAW OF THE WEST

If you've ever had the desire to be the Sheriff of a small town in mid-west America, dealing with rustlers, bank-robbers, and various wanted outlaws, then this new game from Accolade – their second release – is definitely for you.

As with Hardball, Law of the West's graphics are produced by an artist called Mimi Doggett, and

truly superb they are too. Your view is of the right hand side of the sheriff (who you play), and the detail that has gone into the graphics is outstanding, right down to the Levi 501's.

To play LOTW successfully you must interact with the other characters – of which there are about 10 – gleanng any facts that might prove of value. The action takes place in various settings each with a different graphical backdrop.

Each character has different characteristics, and depending on how you respond to their conversation – you have a choice of responses along the bottom of the screen – they will react differently.

The object of the game is to last until sunset without being killed, but then you are marked on how well you did, whether you shot any innocent people, how you did romantically, etc.

I enjoyed the game very much, and although I can see its novelty value wearing off a little, the sense of power as you draw on an innocent bystander is enormous!

Price: TBA

Graphics: ****

Sound: ***

Playability: ***

CCI Rating: CRISP

Contact: US Gold, Unit 10,
Parkway Industrial Estate,
Heneage Street, Birmingham B7
4LY. Tel: 021-359 3020

CRISP



THE FORCE

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to run an areas police force, controlling who goes where, or how many men are assigned to a VIP's arrival? If you haven't it's not very surprising as it's hardly an everyday, Jim'll Fixit, type dream!

Mind Games, a sub-label of Argus Press Software, in



THE FORCE

conjunction with Scotland Yard – have given me a sneak preview of this, their latest game. If you are a diehard simulation player, then this one is for you!

To succeed at this game, you must assign your men (and women, and dogs!) to cover each area, making sure there are enough both to prevent crime, and cope with special occasions.

There are plenty of different areas to cope with; Airport, Town Hall, Industrial Estate #1, and many others. Overall, what I've seen of the game is enough to say that although it cannot be described as an all action game, it certainly will have the more patient of you glued for hours!

Price: TBA
Graphics: ***
Sound: **
Playability: ***
CCI Rating: CRISP

(for strategists)
Contact: Mind games, Liberty House, 222 Regent Street, London W1. Tel: 01-439 0666.

IFFY

alternate

REALITY

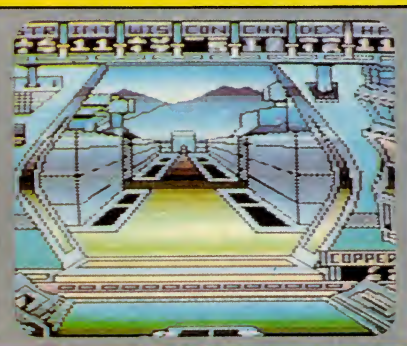
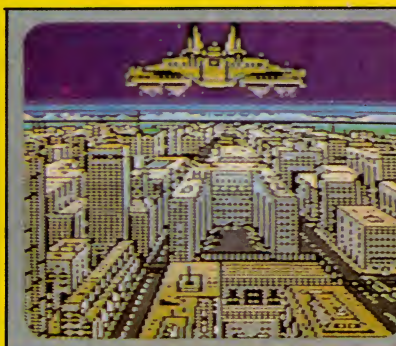
The City

I could make some really profound Freudian statement about the title of this game. Talking about the semi-conscious state in which the mind – having detached itself from the body – can develop a new inner depth which would effect the complete persona, but as that has nothing to do with the game, I won't bother!

Released by Datasoft in America, and imported recently by US Gold, it attempts to combine

many different types of game to create an experience which combines them all.

The game itself is a combination of discovery/strategy, in that having landed in 'The City' you must travel around, making money, buying essential items, and generally avoiding attack from the more criminal elements of society. If you manage to achieve all this, and avoid getting pis*#d (Drunk! Ed.) too often, you



could complete Alternative Reality – and if you do, please let me know!

Graphically AR shows a maze like quasi 3D view of the city, and as you move around you see different labelled doors which lead to various shops, pubs, banks etc. In these you also sometimes get music which although it sounds as if it's being played underwater, can be quite decent.

Overall, an above average game, but not one I would recommend to the avid arcade amongst you.

Graphics: ***
Sound: ***
Playability: ***
CCI Rating: IFFY

Contact: US Gold, Parkway Industrial Estate, Heneage Street, Birmingham. Tel: 021-359 3020.

THE AMIGA HANDBOOK by David Lawrence & Mark England – £7.95

The Amiga is supposed to be a user-friendly computer aimed at the general public and in particular the businessman. We asked Harry Sylvester, a London businessman with experience in PC's and office systems, to take a view on the first AMIGA book published in the UK. Here is his verdict.

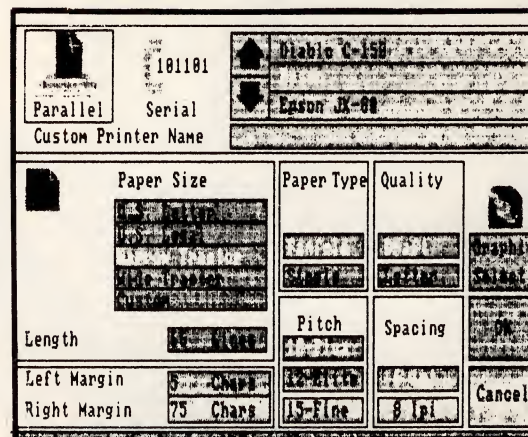
When I was asked to read 'The AMIGA HANDBOOK', I was not overjoyed. Books about computers too often are written in what one might call 'Technical Manual Pidgin'. This is a style which assumes a) you already understand not just the terms used but also the theory that lies behind them and b) that writing about computers has no need of rhythm or style and that what the reader really wants is a technical catalogue padded out to book length.

I am not a computer expert, so I do want both the terminology and the theory explained. I am also, I hope, a reasonably civilised person who prefers to read with enjoyment even when I am trying to learn something new. The first thing I must say about this book is that it does both of those things admirably. It starts right at the beginning explaining the simplest aspects of the AMIGA and even some useful ideas about computers as a whole and works through everything anyone at a reasonable level could want – and it does it in clear, pleasant-to-read language. It gives that excellent feeling of good communication, as if the authors were sitting talking to you, even anticipating questions you are not informed enough to ask.

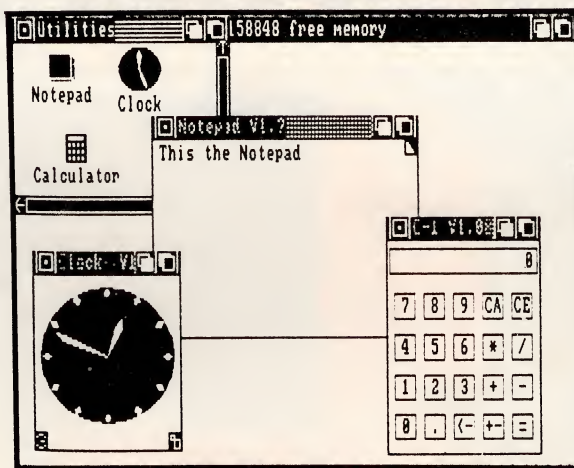
The AMIGA is being presented by Commodore and the press in general as a wonder machine that can do what virtually no other machine can, in fact, setting new standards. It is supposed to be able to fulfil the needs of the businessman and the higher level of home user. However, in the paen of praise, we have not been told, at least it has not got through to me, what makes the Amazing Amiga such a wonder machine. Oh yes; I've heard about the special chips; Agnus, Denise and Paula; about the MC 68000 Motorola chip; about the workbench and the Intuition operating system and the Blitter and the Copper co-processor; and the bouncing ball of course.

But all the columns of coverage the AMIGA has had have not explained comprehensively to me, an ordinary modern businessman and potential AMIGA user, how these miracles of computer development actually work. This AMIGA Handbook however, does just that. It covers the general ground on how each of these clearly extraordinary aspects actually function, what part they play in the genuinely amazing capability of the AMIGA and how they, frequently simultaneously, work together. Most importantly this is all presented in such a way that even someone who is totally unfamiliar with the practical realities and limits of using a computer and the theoretical basis for computer science can easily understand. I now believe I know why its custom-designed chips allow the AMIGA to outpace machines many times its price. I realise how the built-in libraries control its graphics, sound animation and speech. I'm familiar with the 'Intuition' user interface for its windows and icons; and the delightful easy-to-use workbench; all that and much more about the AMIGA is suddenly crystal clear.

The visual element of this Handbook is simply taken straight from the AMIGA. What you see is what you will be presented with on the AMIGA screen and there are 31 pages of reproductions and explanations, once again all extremely clear and understandable.



The printer options screen



Some of the free utilities on the Workbench desk

There are some people who, I know, will not want this book. There is already a small group of 'AMIGA experts' among the general public. They are the lucky or professionally involved people who have or have had access to an AMIGA and firsthand experience of its miraculous talents. This book is not for them. One such to whom I showed it, glanced at it and sneered that it was not advanced enough for him. He may be right, but I think he could be wrong. It seems to me extremely thorough. It is in any case well-designed to carry out the task the authors have set themselves: to give the very large number of potential buyers of the AMIGA a real guide to its capabilities and a chance to decide, without spending the £1500 or so an AMIGA costs, whether its unchallengably excellent potential is one they can or want to use.

If this book is criticised for being unoriginal and insufficiently technically profound, I believe the authors could justly point out that it is the AMIGA that is original and that its technology may require deeper investigation by computer professionals who are developing software but that audience is not the one for whom this book has been written.

For a potential, and now, after reading it, much more likely purchaser of an AMIGA, it will serve as a very useful introduction to an outstanding computer.

Contact: Pitman Publishing, 125 Long Acre, London WC2. Tel: 01-379 7383

This month your letters are answered by Rae West. Rae is the author of three large reference books on Commodore computers; the latest is *Programming the Commodore 64*, following *Programming the VIC* and *Programming the PET/CBM*. All are published in the UK by Level Ltd. Rae is also published in the USA by Compute! Books.

Dear Rae,

I'd very much like to know if any Turbo loading tape systems are available to the public.

S. Squires, London.

Certainly *Novaload* is available on a licence basis. It's likely that others are available too.

Contact Novagen Software on 021-744-1624.

Dear Rae,

When I load a 64 program off disk, say from 2048 to 8192, the memory just below 40960 is changed to the name of the program I just loaded. If a program is already there, it will be corrupted. Can the name be positioned elsewhere?

A.A. James, Burton-on-Trent.

What you've noticed is a consequence of the way the 64 stores strings of information; all strings – including things like program names – go into the top of memory. What you need to do is lower the top of memory, and this is quite simple: POKE 55 and 56 with the low and high values of the new BASIC top (eg POKE 55,0: POKE 56,120: CLR lowers it by $40 \times 256 = 10K$ bytes). Use CLR to make all the pointers consistent. Try PRINT FRE (0) to see how much the free memory has shrunk.

To understand these points completely, read chapter 5 ('Advanced BASIC') of my book.

Dear Rae,

Am I correct in assuming that the Comal 80 cartridge in the Plus/4 port would look like this?

```
LDX #$05
LDX #$00
STA ($FDD0),X
```

What I'm trying to ask is how does one get the Plus/4 to act as a C64 game ROM? As simple as possible, please.

A.L. Hughes, London E8.

I'm afraid you've not been told much about your Plus/4. (i) The Plus/4 is designed in a different way from the 64, and won't run any of its software apart from simple BASIC programs. (ii) The 64's COMAL cartridge won't fit the Plus/4's cartridge port – they are deliberately different in size. (iii) COMAL is a language rather like BASIC;

the example you've written is not COMAL at all, and would only give syntax error messages with COMAL. Your example is a version of machine language (and an includes error).

To summarise, you can't get a Plus/4 to run C64 games.

Dear Rae,

Could you tell me if there is any way of saving to tape a graphics screen which I've created in direct mode. I need to save locations from 1024 to 2023, and color locations from 55296 to 56295.

I also wish to create a graphics screen using a utility program, and save this to tape to send to my friends who have C64s, to LOAD and RUN.

I'm having the same sort of problem with commercial music utilities – I cannot incorporate my masterpieces into my own programs!

J. Gimblett, West Drayton.

The first part of your question is relatively easy to answer: low-resolution screens of the sort you describe can be saved in program format, which is the most efficient way of storing them, by altering BASIC's start and end so that the system saves the part of memory you want. POKE 43,0: POKE 44,4: POKE 45,232: POKE 46,7:SAVE "SCREEN", 1,1 and POKE 43,0: POKE 44,216: POKE 45,232: POKE 46,219: SAVE "COLOUR", 1,1 will do the trick. Having saved these, you only need to LOAD "", 1,1 twice to force the data back into the same areas of memory, restoring the picture. (My book 'Programming the Commodore 64' has a detailed section on block saving, including the tricky case of saving from within a program).

If you are using your own custom characters, things get more complex – you also have to save, or poke in, the bytes defining your characters, and also set the VIC-II chip to look at them.

Bit-mapped screens can be saved and restored in just the same way, but things are more complex: (i) they occupy much more memory, (ii) they can be put into many different areas of memory, because the VIC-II chip is wired up to ensure considerable versatility. The key locations here are (i) 56576, controlling the VIC-II's bank; (ii) 53272, which controls both the start of screen memory and the start of character memory; (iii) 648, which makes BASIC work properly with the new memory arrangement. With a utility program, you'll have to determine the values in these locations to work out which parts of memory to save. P. 384 of my book explains all this.

Music utilities are more difficult: the bytes holding the musical notes, and the way these are processed, are different for each system, so a lot of detective work is usually needed to use them in one's own

programs. If they're written in machine language, deciphering them will be very difficult: you could contact the publishers or author(s) for information. As you say, this does detract from the value of otherwise excellent utilities.

Dear Rae,

I've been trying to combine the video output from my 64 with the video signal from my VCR. I can record either signal separately, but I'm told I need some sort of synchroniser to bring the two together. Is there any way I can make the 64 synchronise the two signals? The object of all this is to produce title rolls for video tapes of weddings etc.

M. Don, Whitby.

I suggest you contact 'Master Class' Cheshire, on 061-436-4780. These people produce videos relating to the 64 and have experience in the sort of interfacing problems you've experienced.

Dear Rae,

When altering machine-code routines it is essential to know the start and end addresses of the program in memory. It is possible to access this information from a short BASIC program?

J. Andrews, Peterborough.

You don't say whether you're using tape or disk.

With tape, just use OPEN 1, which will read the header of the program. This has the start and the end address – PEEK from 829 to 832 to get these values.

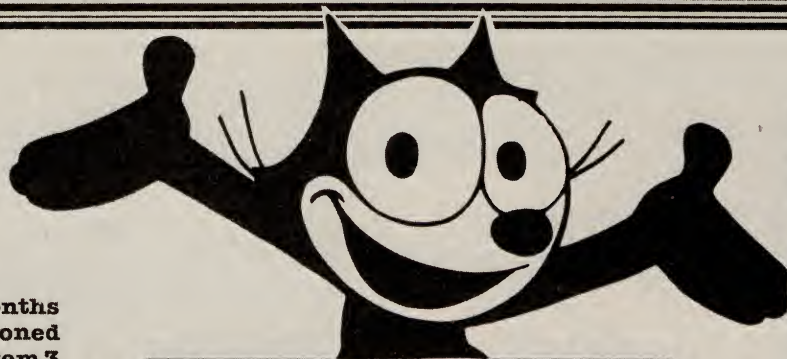
Disk programs have the start address but not the end address; a program simply loads until it gets to the end. The following program prints the starting address, and also determines the end address by reading the program:

```
10 OPEN 1,3,"0:NAME,P,R"
20 GET #1, X$,Y$: PRINT "START IS":
30 S = ASC (X$+CHR$(0))+ 256*
ASC(Y$+CHR$(0))
40 PRINT S
50 GET #1, X$:S=S+1: IF ST=0 GO
TO 50
60 CLOSE 1: PRINT "END IS" S
```

Do you have a computing problem, or advice to offer other readers? Write to us at:

**Queries,
Commodore Computing International,
Finsbury Business Centre,
40 Bowling Green Lane,
London EC1R 0NE**

Please do not send your SAE's as it is impossible to reply personally to every query.



Ho-Fung ji!

In last months mutterings I mentioned the quietness of System 3 recently. Well, in response Mark Kale phoned me. He then invited me round to his new offices, and showed me some of the stuff they've been doing. First off was International Karate on the 64. **WOWEEE!** It looks absolutely brilliant. Yes it's better than fist (or what I've seen is). Programmed by Archer MacLean, with music by Rob Hubbard, I'd recommend it to every 64 owner. More next month.

Felix Says...
Hi folks!! I'm back again this month, and with even more exciting bits and pieces that seem to have been flying around!

Stop Press!!

Just a brief note tell you Comic Bakery from Imagine has arrived, with another excellent soundtrack by Martin Galway. The game however is just a fraction easy; 123,000 on my second ever game!!! More next month!!

Hot Shots????

Wars between rival rags don't interest me greatly, but when one gossip column is so short of material that it has to revert to copying their material from the Ludlow mafia then claiming it as theirs, things really must be getting bad!

Far Our Man!

Well man, I've just got in from a really wierd experience. That guru of hippies, J. Minter, had a little do the other night to launch his new Colourspace on the Atari 520st - I know it's not strictly Commodore but maybe he'll do it for the Amiga. Anyway, man was it cool! Held at the Laserium he did a 40 minute show to music such as Marillion, then there was this far out laser show to Genesis. Finally there was a duet of Lasers and Colourspace to Stairway to Heaven!

Wow man it was really free!

At Last... Response!

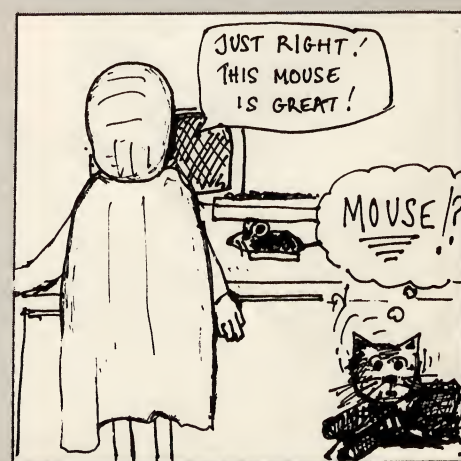
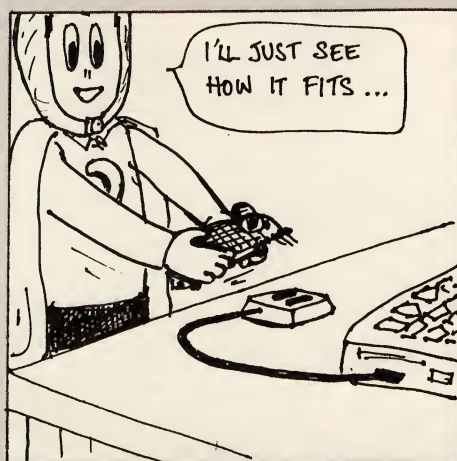
Last month's little morcelettes seem to have created more than a little reaction from interested parties. A certain person phoned up to say that he had loads of new products, and "did we have a spare page for them?". I'm going to see these games very shortly so I'll let you know all about any relevant developments next month.

Ok, so it's here!

After last month's announcement that I had waited for rather a long time to get hold of the Young Ones game from Orpheus, it promptly arrived. I also got a phone call assuring me it had been on sale for quite a while, ummm! Having played the game I can now proudly say I still can't understand it, but by next month I'll have worked it out (or died trying!).

Cheats Beware!

Companies who persist in making untrue claims for their game (the 1000+ screen brigade), may well be in trouble quite soon. Robtek - who used to be Robcom until Robocom got stroppy - have released 'Game killer'. Using techniques that remove all Sprite detection this cartridge makes playing games an awful lot easier! Reasonably priced at £14.95 it should be out pretty soon, and I'll be telling you how good it is next month.





Sorry Everyone

No no no, I'm not apologising (fools!): Domark have withdrawn their tasteless cover of Friday 13th due to the fact that almost everyone told them how dreadful it was. Unfortunately they didn't realise that everyone was really refering to the game. Well, they do try, and I'm assured by a certain PR man that their new game on the 64 really should be good. I am waiting, eagerly, to see it!

Ho Hum..

Having got really quite excited about seeing Ocean's American Football program, which was promised to the world in time for the Superbowl, I now see that it has been delayed. Although this is not rare for Ocean's product, I do hope for their sake that they haven't missed a real chance!

Onward Forever

Continuing their policy of getting anything that moves, and some that doesn't, US Gold have signed a marketing agreement with English Software. The first title to be affected by this agreement will be Elecktraglide on the 64. Knight games, their next release will also be incorporated in the agreement.

I had better keep this space open each month for US Gold's new aquisitions. What I said about Cuba was wrong, but the Philippines...who knows?

Tweet Tweet!!??!!

If you look at a certain Commodore rag this month you may notice the tremendous emphasis, including the cover, given to a certain new game, singing its praises.

A little bird has told us that people are asking whether it could be a coincidence, or that the Editor of said rag could be related to someone high up at the software house.

Shome mishtake shurley? (And stop calling me Shirley!) Cont page 94.

Turbo Esprit

Speculation (ho ho!) created by a certain Commodore magazines

inside front cover about Durell's Speccy and Amstrad game Turbo Esprit seems to have caused a little embarrassment. I wouldn't try and buy it if I were you!

It turns out that the advert was meant to be for Durell's excellent 64 game Critical Mass. I'm sure someone got a smacked wrist for that one!

Ha! ha! ha!

Witty press release of the month award goes to a small comment at the bottom of Martech's announcement of Zoids - The Battle Begins. Having told us the game will be out soon and will cost £8.95, this follows:

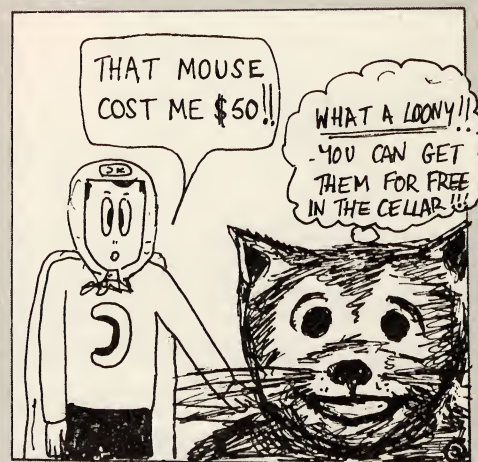
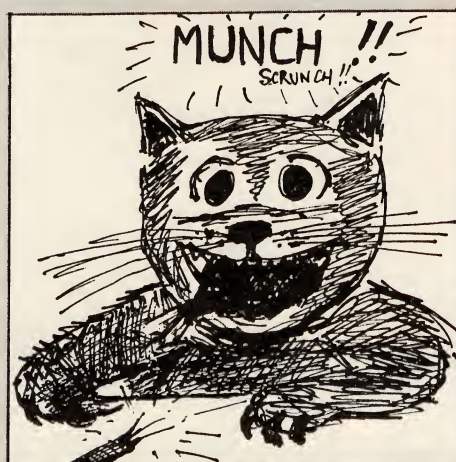
"Zoids will do to the competition what the Chicago Bears did to the New England Patriots", and in case you weren't up at 2.15 am they totally slaughtered them, but I hope for David Martin's sake that the opposition don't buy a 'Refrigerator'!!!

More From Sweden

Greve Graphics, who I introduced you to last month, sent me a screen shot of their game 'Soldier one'. As it is only a loading shot I can't tell you much - if they ever gave me their phone number I'd ask them for a copy of the game. Until then, watch this space!

OK enough for this month except to show you a little picture drawn of me by a friend. I know I'm a handsome devil, but my owner certainly leaves a little to be desired!

Bye from the world's most famous cat, **FELIX.**



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	- Broderbund:	Victree	r	56.35
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		The Printshop Graphics Library [1,2 or 3]	d	29.95

WAR & BUSINESS SIMULATIONS by SSI, SSG, DKG, Barac, Avalon Hill, Canada Sim.

ADVENTURES by SSI, Origin, Infocom, Datasoft, Telarium, Mindscape, S&S.

MUSIC SYNTHESIZERS by Firebird, Broderbund, Access, EA, Supersoft, Orpheus.

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ADD-ON ISSUE

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16 PAGE GUIDE

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With this comprehensive peripherals guide, CCI intend to show you what's available for your Commodore. Even people who have accepted peripherals, printers, disk drives, monitors – will find a wide variety of products that can bring a new light into your computing world.

We are not out to recommend one product over another, for that you will have to read individual reviews and then decide for yourself. In this guide we will tell you what's available, the rest is up to you!

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BM 7542	WD Phosphor, Paper white screen, 12" Mono	£91.95	Philips
BM 7513	P39 Phosphor, green screen 12"	£119.95	Philips
CM 8500	Std. resolution, grey glass screen 14" colour, composite video	£222.95	Philips
CM 8501	Std. resolution, grey glass screen RGB 14" colour	£243.95	Philips
CM 8524	Std. resolution, dark glass etched screen, composite video + RGB 14" colour	£279.95	Philips
CM 8533	Med. resolution, dark glass etched screen, composite video + RGB 14" colour Compatible with 64, +4, 16, 128, PC	£314.95	Philips
CM 14	14" monitor, RGB, Scart, composite video. Colour.	£199.99	Fidelity
KX 14 CP1	14" monitor, new and specially designed unit for use with personal computers. High resolution, video input connector enables it to be used with VTR or TV tuners and direct broadcast satellite.	£462.50	Sony
1701	14" colour monitor gives the sharpest picture with the most vivid colours possible from any Commodore home computer. It has two inputs. The composite video input at the front will accept a signal from the VIC 20 or a suitable video recorder. The second input accepts chrominance and luminance signals output from the 16, 14 and +4. Comes complete with 8 pin connecting lead.	£230.00	Commodore
1431 AP	14", standard resolution, low complexity colour display, high quality resolution	£259	Microvitec
2030 AP	20", standard or high resolution	£465	Microvitec
CM 31481 VI	80-column text display, green or amber text switch	£270	Thomson
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Please supply _____ GRAFPAD(S) II at £59.50 plus £2.50 p&p (or £8 insured delivery)

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Access

SPECIFICATION

Resolution:

1280 x 1024 pixels

Repeatability:

1 pixel

Output rate:

2000 co-ordinate pairs
per sec.

Interface:

parallel

Origin:

LH corner or selectable

Dimensions:

350 x 260 x 12 mm.

**EXPORT AND DEALER
ENQUIRIES WELCOMED**

CCI 4

ADD-ON GUIDE

PRINTERS/PLOTTERS

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
MT-85	7 × 9 dot matrix. Max print speed 180 cps. NLQ mode 45 cps. Max paper width 10". Fully IBM and Epson compatible.	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£369.95	Mannesman Tally
MT-86	As above. Max paper width 15".	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£469.00	Mannesman Tally
1510 Printer/Plotter	Uses a continuous roll of paper and can plot, draw and write in four colours. Ideal for program listings, graphs, pie charts, creating designs and drawing pictures. Max paper width 4½". Print speed 14 cps.	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£99.99	Commodore
MPS-801	Impact dot matrix (uni-hammer method). Max print speed 50 cps. Pin feed. Max paper width 10". Serial interface.	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£230.00	Commodore
MPS-802	Serial impact dot matrix. Max print speed 60 cps. Pin feed and friction. Max paper width 10". Serial interface.	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£345.00	Commodore
MCS-801	Colour dot matrix. Max print speed 50 cps. Tractor feed.	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£399.99	Commodore
DPS-1101	Daisywheel (Triumph Adler compatible) letter quality. Alternative type faces available such as italics, gothic and pica. Max print speed 18 cps. Friction feed. Max paper width 13".	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£399.99	Commodore
Riteman C+	9 × 7 dot matrix. Max print speed 105 cps draft. Max paper width 10".	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£240.00	C. Itoh
Ibico LTR-1	Ink roller, friction feed. Max print speed 12 cps letter quality. Max paper width 8½".	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£119.95	Saga
HR-5	Thermal printing 9 × 9. Max print speed 30 cps. Max paper width 80 columns.	64, VIC 20	£110.00	Brother
P-40	Dot matrix 9 × 6. Max print speed 45 cps. Max paper width 40 columns. Parallel or serial interface.	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£86.91	Epson
Rotronics DX-85	9 × 9 dot matrix. Max print speed 120 cps draft. NLQ available. Max paper width 80 columns. Friction and pin feed and automatic and single sheet loading. Bit-mode (graphics) operation allows printing of graphs and special tables.	64, VIC 20	£233.95	Rotronics
SG10C	Specifically for Commodore machines. 9 × 11 dot matrix. 2K buffer. Max print speed 120 cps draft. NLQ mode. Max paper width 10". Detachable tractor feed. Parallel interface with option of serial interface.	64, VIC 20, 128	£225.00	Star
SD10	9 × 11 dot matrix. Friction and tractor. 2K buffer. Max print speed 160 cps draft. NLQ mode. Max paper width 10".	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£389.00	Star

ADD-ON GUIDE

PRINTERS/PLOTTERS

Product	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
SD15	As above. 16K buffer. Max paper width 15".	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£489.00	Star
The Powertype	Daisywheel printer (Qume). Parallel interface and also built-in serial interface. Max print speed cps.	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£379.00	Star
Seikosha GP-100VC	Designed for Commodore machines. 80 column dot matrix. Max print speed 50 cps draft. No NLQ mode. Max paper width 10". Tractor feed.	64, VIC 20	£115.00	DDL
Seikosha GP-1000VC	12 x 9 dot matrix. Max print speed 100 cps draft. NLQ 20 cps. Tractor feed. Max paper width 10".	64, VIC 20, 16, +4	£279.00	DDL
MT-80	9 x 8 dot matrix. Can handle all the Epson codes. Max print speed 100 cps (uses square 'needles' for good print quality). Max paper width 10".	64, VIC 20 (needs 'black box')	£217.00	Mannesman Tally
P-80	9 x 6 dot matrix. Single sheet feed. Max print speed 45 cps draft. Max paper width A4. Parallel and serial interface.	64, VIC 20, 128 (needs box)	£160.00	Epson
P-80XS	24 x 18 dot matrix. Single sheet feed. Max print speed 45 cps draft, 22.5 cps correspondence. Max paper width A4. 2K buffer. Single sheet feed.	64, VIC 20, 128 (needs box)	£250.00	Epson
LX-80	18 x 12 dot matrix. Single sheet and continuous with Automatic Feeder optional. Max print speed 100 cps draft, 16 cps correspondence. Max paper width 254mm. 1K buffer. Parallel centronics standard.	64, VIC 20, 128 (needs box)	£255.00	Epson
H-180	10 colour Printer Plotter. Graphs, solids, outlines or cross hatching. Matt, gloss paper and film. A4. Parallel centronics standard. Serial optional.	64, VIC 20	£400.00	Epson

PRINTER/BUFFERS

Comprint	Will fit inside a Printer, allows full use of Printer features and full use of Commodore features. 2K buffering. Boxed version	64, VIC 20, +4	£61.99 £99.50 incl.	A-line Dataspeed
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INTERFACES

Superbox 64	Expansion unit which features three independent cartridge slots, IEEE interface that is totally transparent. Reset switch activates cold start on computer. Will connect up to 3 cartridges at the same time.	64	£67.85	Handic
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ADD-ON GUIDE

Interfaces (cont)

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
The Commodore Connexion	Software package and cable enables the 64 user to link the computer to any standard centronics printer. Has two modes – a 'normal' mode providing carriage control facilities and 'mode 2' for printing characters direct. Does not interfere with user memory.	64	£19.95	SMC
Comprint	Two internal versions (Epson and Canon), just plug in and connect cable. 2K buffer storage. 8K buffer storage. Stand alone version.	64, C.16	£61.99 £80.50 £99.50	Micro Control
92000	Interface/buffers allows connection of a printer with a centronics interface to Commodore 64. Connection is made via the serial port and thus no driver program is necessary, no buffer memory is taken up and the user port stays free.	64, C.16, C.128, +4	£47.50	FCC
92008	As above, 8K buffer.	64, C.16, C.128, +4	£59.99	FCC
92000/G	In addition is able to print all CBM special characters, block graphics, CBM single point graphics etc. Built-in DIL switches.	64, C.16, C.128, +4	£59.99	FCC
92008/G	As above with 8K buffer.	64, C.16, C.128, +4	£64.99	FCC
Interpod	Full IEEE and RS232C communication. Can accomodate 1541 d/d, 8050 and 4040 disk.	64, VIC 20	£59.95	Cheetah
The Connection	Fully intelligent Parallel Printer Interface designed exclusively for Commodore computers. Plugs into the disk (serial) socket and translates Commodore ASCII to standard ASCII. Provides two modes. 2K buffer. Also features an on-board printer test to isolate problems.	All	£84.95 for the Epson version £79.95 for all other models	Tymac
PRINT 64	Serial IEEE to Centronics interface. Two leads, one plugs into the serial port on either the computer or the disk drive and the other into the printer. Includes Supply Connector Lead for cassette port. Commodore graphics characters, normal and inverted. Can assign any PRINT 64 function to any program's secondary address.	64	£76.95	Jansen
Ibek Interface	Built-in functions.	64	£59.95 + VAT	Data Star
Trippler Interface	Built-in functions.	64	£45.00 + VAT	Data Star
Parallel Interface	Compatible with existing software; plugs in direct; device number can be altered; 16K printer buffer option	64, VIC,	£44.95	Zero Electronics
Super Graphix	8K buffer; 10 printing modes re-set button; internal fonts	64/128	£49.95	Screens

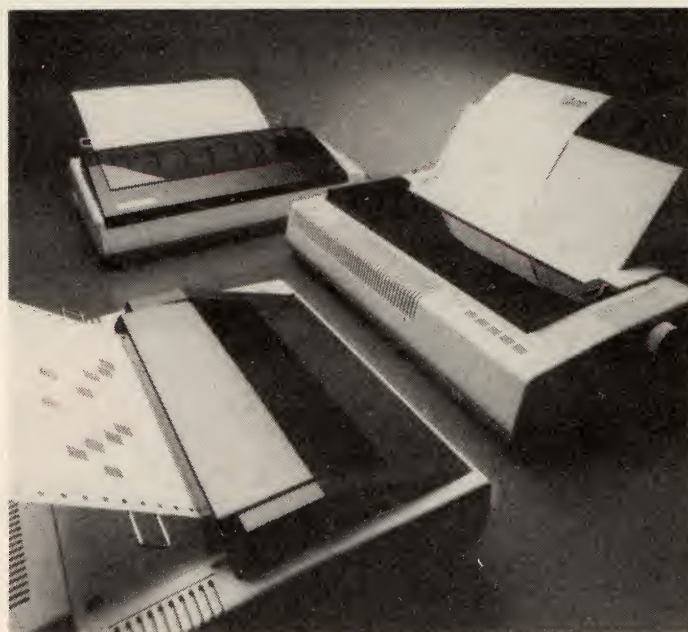
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**The Totally IBM
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		LIST PRICE	OUR PRICE
EPSON	LX80	£255.00	£176.00
EPSON	FX105	£569.00	£386.00
EPSON	FX85	£385.00	£285.00
CITIZEN	MSP10	£395.00	£316.00
CITIZEN	MSP15	£500.00	£400.00
CITIZEN	MSP20	£555.00	£444.00
CITIZEN	MSP25	£700.00	£560.00
JUKI	6100	£399.00	£280.00
JUKI	6200	£499.00	£350.00
JUKI	6300	£899.00	£630.00
JUKI	5520 (colour)	£399.00	£315.00
JUKI	5516	£299.00	£229.00

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ADD-ON GUIDE

MODEMS

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
TM 110	1200/75 bps V23 full duplex mode. Able to store and access data in its own CMOS RAM. RS232 micro interface, auto-dial/auto-recall and auto transmission of ID. Up to 8 telephone numbers can be stored.	64, VIC 20	£99	Tandata
TM 200	Includes all the features of the TM 110 and in addition to 1200/75 baud full duplex also offers 75/1200 bps full duplex, 1200/1200 half duplex to allow two micros to 'chat' and 300/300 bps full duplex with answer and originate mode allowing use with many conventional databases.	64, VIC 20	£173	Tandata
Modem 1000	Can access Prestel, Micronet, with option to access B.T. Gold and 1275 Bulletin boards. Free quarter's subscription to Micronet with every purchase from Modem House.	64, 128	£99.95	Modem House
WS 2000	Single-unit multi-standard, multi-speed, offering a very wide choice of operational facilities. Can transmit and receive at 300 baud full duplex, 600 baud half duplex, 1200 baud half duplex and Prestel/Telecom Gold.	All with RS232/serial interface	£129.95	Miracle Technology
WS 3000 V2123	Fully intelligent, keyboard-instructed, autodialling, auto-answering. Supports both CCITT and Bell standards, 60-number internal telephone directory, speed buffered RS232 port. Allows 300, 600, 1200, 1200/75 and 75/1200 baud rates.	All with RS232/serial interface	£295.00	Miracle Technology
WS 3000 V22	Adds 1200 baud full duplex	All with RS232/serial interface	£495.00	Miracle Technology
WS 3000 V22bis	Adds 2400 baud full duplex. Protect 3000 Data Security Option £98 when purchased with modem.	All with RS232/serial interface	£650.00	Miracle Technology
Commodore Communications Modem	1200/75 V23 full duplex, asynchronous operation. Easy to fit, easy to use. Connection direct to the cartridge port of a 64 and direct to a British Telecom series 600 socket. Compunet software held in ROM (8k) for immediate interaction after switch on. Soft load options provide 64 to 64 direct communication. One year's free subscription to Compunet	64	£99.99	Commodore
Multimodem	Multi-speed, baud rates of 300/300, 1200/75, 75/1200. Auto-dial, auto answer, auto-mailbox	64	£98.50	Miracle
Tm512E	Auto-dial, auto-answer	64	£339	Tandata
Voyager	Operates V21 and V23. Auto-dial, auto-answer, optional add-ons	64	£79.95	Modem House

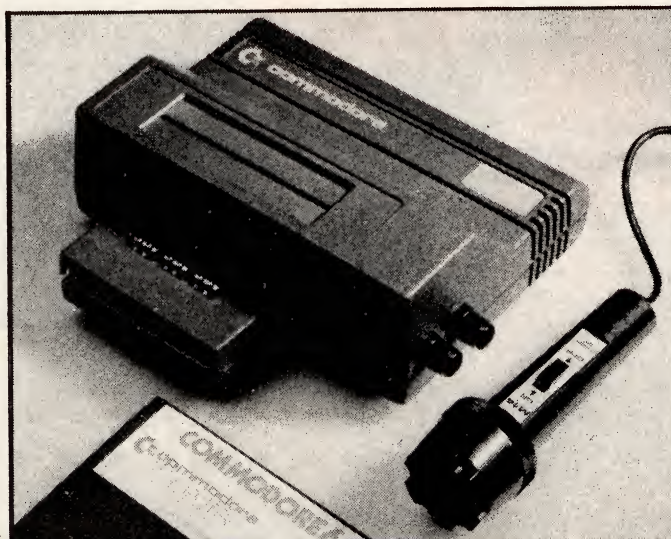
ADD-ON GUIDE

MUSIC ADD-ONS

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
Music Maker	Starter program. Turns 64 into keyboard.	64, 128	£19.99	Music Sales
Playalong Albums	3 available: Pop, Classics, Beatles. 12 songs. Auto playback or will teach to play melody.	64, 128	£9.99	Music Sales
Sound Studio	2 programs in 1. (1) Turns computer into synthesizer. On screen controls. 60 sounds in memory. (2) Sound recording studio (3 channels). Real step time.	64, 128	£14.99	Music Sales
Sound Sampler	Hardware & software package with audio lead and mike. Samples and digitizes sound. Editing facilities. Pitch sampler. Drum & echo facilities.	64, 128	£69.99	Music Sales
Sound Expander	Hardware & Software package. Gives 64 extra sounds. Turns computer into generator using F.M. technology. Enables 11 voices to be used at one time. Easy play features built in.	64, 128	£99.99	Music Sales
Syntron Digidrum	Hardware/software package. Using 64 'live' or real recorded drum digital samples the Digidrum allows patterns and songs to be built up and recorded. Software comes complete with 16 samples, 8 standard kit and 8 glass samples. Demo songs and patterns provided. Audio and trigger outputs.		£65.00 incl.	Syndromic
Sound Set 1	Disk containing over 50 new samples for Syntron Digidrum. Latin and Syndrum kits plus full selection of tom-toms, sweep, pitchbend toms, cymbals, hihats, Latin effects and syndrum effects. Also in cassette.	64	£16.50	Syndromic
Digital Music System (Microsound)	Designed to provide the ability not only to play back the sampled sounds at various pitches, but also to create complex sounds using Dynamic Amplitude Modulation, Definable Pointer sets, Looping, Reversing, and mixing different sample sounds. Keyboard is a full size 4 octave unit that connects to the 64 via the games ports and requires no external power supply. The Sound Control Program provides a complete display of the status of the synthesizer, together with a comprehensive set of single key commands for control while playing.	64	£165.22	Autographics

ADD-ON GUIDE

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
RMS 6H	JMS Midi Master Synchronizer allows synchronisation of conventional trigger signals and Sync Signals with MIDI synchron code. All Sync Codes are available simultaneously at the outputs, with each capable of controlling several devices. Also incorporates Sync To and Sync From tape.	64	£ 239.00	Rosetti
RMS 20C	Midi Multitrack Composer. An effective step time Composer program offering six channels with Computer input one note at a time. Editing facilities include pitch, gate time, velocity, sound changes and transfer.	64	£ 49.95	Rosetti
Microvox	Package consists of sampling unit, system disk (with 'start-up' samples) and Library disk. The sampling unit has two programmable 24dB/octave filters and gives a S/N ratio of 59 dB.	64	£229.95	Supersoft
Siel CMK 49	Music Keyboard, 4 octaves, fits directly to expansion port, software allows complete control over SID chip, programming in mono and poly modes, MIDI Master Keyboard function w/split facility, 99 sounds per file possible, 40 sounds immediately available, demo songs.	64	£125.00 incl.	Syndromic
Siel Sound Buggy	Comes complete with overlay clip-on keyboard but can be controlled via the CMK 49 keyboard. Allows the user complete control over a new sound chip, programmable sounds, rhythms, single finger/fingered chords, split keyboard, auto-accompaniment includes arpeggio, bass, vibrato, memory plus chord and melody sequencer, demo songs, sounds and rhythms already programmed, MIDI facilities include Receive/Transmit plus channel and program change for four individual MIDI lines	64	£99.00 incl.	Syndromic



ADD-ON GUIDE

MUSIC ADD-ONS

Datel Sampler	Hardware incorporates full 8-bit D to A and ADC conversion. Software includes sample editing	64	£49.99	Datel
MCS	Combines interface, MIDI link and comprehensive disk software	64	£245	Joreth Music
AMS	Editor, keyboard, linker synthesiser and MIDI modules	64/128	£39.95	Rainbird



Lightpens

	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
Datapen	Buff casing, no interface needed	64, VIC 20	£25.00	Datapen
Trojan Lightpens	Black. Will draw freehand, can magnify or reduce, can fill in with either colour or 2 different patterns	64, VIC 20,	£17.25	Trojan

Graphics Tablets

	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
Grafpad II	Use to design circuit diagrams, mechanical engineering & kitchen designs, in general CAD packages	All	£44.95 (interface £23.95)	British Micro
The Touchmaster	A4 size surface which generates coordinates. Free graphics program, can fit different overlays	All	£99.00 (including interface, pad, stylii & overlay)	Panorama
Super Sketch	Graphics tablet with many features, which comes complete with Starter Kit	64	£51.95	Anirot

Mice

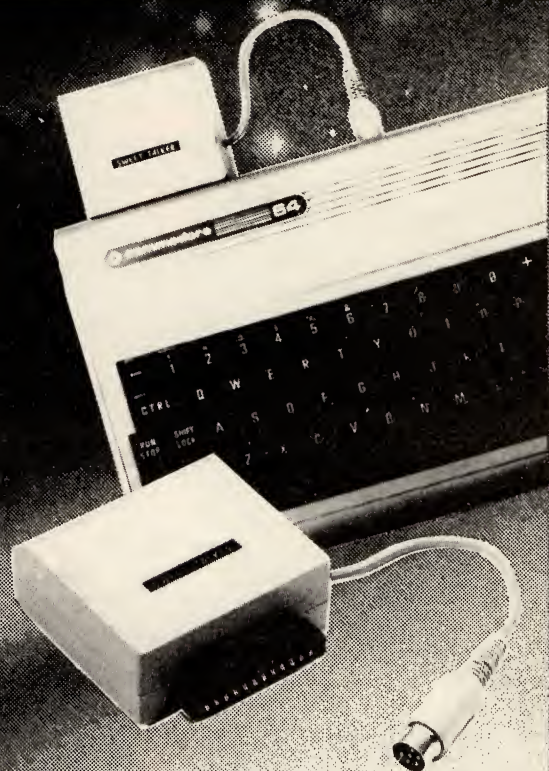
Datex Mouse	Mouse, tape & disk software	64	£76.00	EEC
The Magic Mouse	Mouse, tape & disk software	64	£59.95	SMC
MS 2000 V	Optical encoding and a comprehensive cassette-based software		£69	Wigmore House

COMMODORE SWEET TALKER

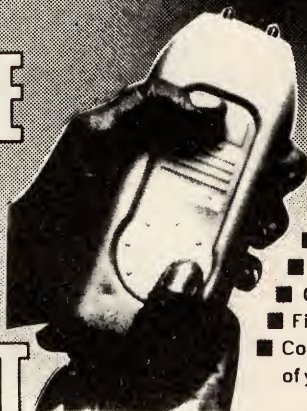
THE CHEETAH "SWEET TALKER" JUST PLUGS INTO THE BACK OF THE COMMODORE 64 BASED ALLOPHONE SYSTEM. YOU CAN EASILY RECORD ANY WORD, SENTENCE OR PHRASE AND REPRODUCE EXCITING SPEECH AND BROADCASTING IT THROUGH YOUR T.V. FULLY CASED, TESTED AND

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It has these features:

- Infra Red transmission—so there are no leads trailing across the living room. Just sit back in your chair up to 30 feet from your machine.
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- No extra software required.
- Can be used with all Commodore Joystick software.
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Simply incredible at **£19.95**



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are proud to announce the arrival
of their 125 Joystick

Compatible with ZX Spectrum, Commodore 64, Vic 20, Amstrad, Atari, MSX, etc.

At only £8.95 the features on the 125 are second to none. Besides its unique internal structure, built to withstand immense punishment from even the most vigorous games player, the joystick contains no less than four extremely sensitive fire buttons. Two are housed in the handgrip which has been moulded for extra comfort and ease of operation. The trigger finger fire button provides ease and comfort for your finger and the top fire button is contoured to fit your thumb for sure fire shooting. The base fire buttons are positioned for extra control and two hand firing whether you are right or left handed. A built in auto-fire switch provides continuous shooting at the touch of a fire button.

The 125 comes complete with a full 12 months warranty and is available from High Street stores and all good computer shops.

ONLY
£8.95

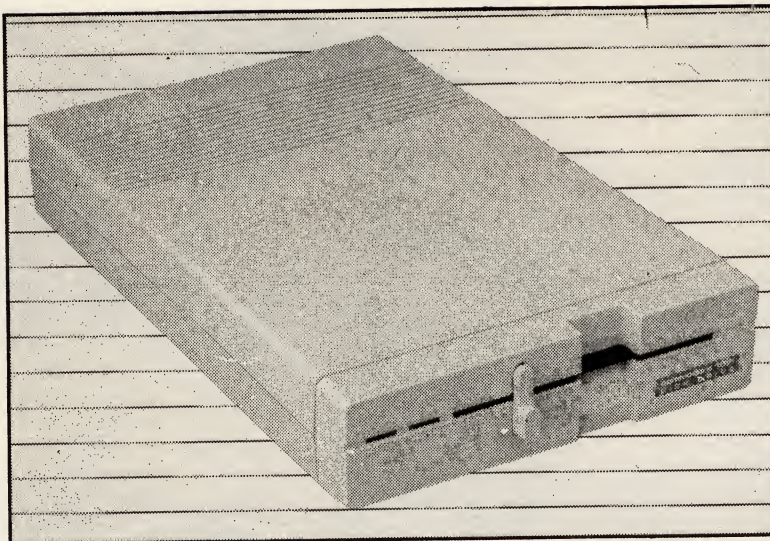


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ADD-ON GUIDE



Disk/Wafer Drives

Product	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
1541	Single disk drive unit, provides greater storage capacity (170 Kbytes) – faster retrieval than a cassette unit	64	£199.99 (with dot matrix printer)	CBM UK
Wafer drive	High speed load	64	£59.95	Micropride
Triton Quick	Disk drive – takes 8 secs. to load a 48K program	64	£119.95	Radofin
Quick Data Drive	Quick loading, uses an endless loop of video quality tape	64	£49.95	Dean
Enhancer 2000	2 1/2 times faster than the 1541 only on the raw data transfer	64	£229.95	Commotion
1571	Double-sided, fast access times, quiet in operation, half height	128	£249	Commodore

Speech Recognition & Synthesis

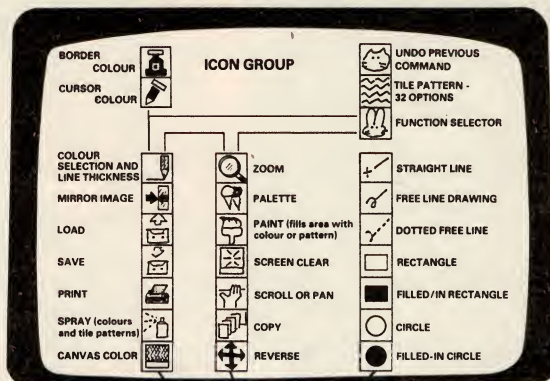
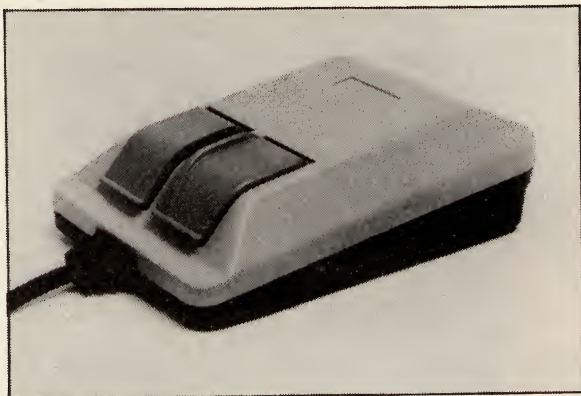
Product	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
Sweet Talker	Synthesiser — allophone system, 3" square, 1 1/2" high, gives examples & demonstrations. Shape & colour as Commodore	64	£24.95	Cheetah
Voicemaster	Unique 3-in-one package, speech reproduction, speaks in own voice. Voice harp – just whistle or hum to produce music	64	£59.95	Anirog
Currah Speech 64	"Y" cable available, converts text to speech direct from screen, uses allo-phones system, infinite vocab.	64 (compatible with C128)	£21.95	Welwyn Electronics

ADD-ON GUIDE

SPEED LOADERS

Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
Epyx Fast Load Cartridge	Has disk tools e.g. directory, return to basic function, copy (another menu). Can be disengaged without turning off machine. Can edit disks, has a file utility, For trans-programming you have S.Mon. which is a powerful monitor. Numbers may be entered in hex.	64, 128	£24.95	Centresoft
Robcom Turbo range	Alignment tape kit included in package. 8 pre-programmed function keys. 16 different tape and disk commands. Conversion of all graphic and control codes into readable text. Re-set switch.	64, 128	From £24.95 to £39.95	Centresoft
GTL 1	This cartridge enables your 1541 disk drive to load 4-5 times faster. Many useful features including abbreviated load/save commands and unique on/off switching etc. Designed to work with most games.	64	£20.00	Trilogic
GTL 2	As above with built-in reset switch	64	£22.00	Trilogic
Quickdisc +	Cartridge plugs inot 64 and 1541. Can be switched in and out from the keyboard. Fast format, fast backup, fast file copier. Reset switch. Improved DOS commands. Is compatible with printers and second drives. Cure for 'save @ bug'.	64	£19.95	Evesham
Turbo 64	A disk specially formatted with the fast load feature built in. Once the disk is made it will load on any unmodified Commodore 64 and 1541 disk drive without having to load anything first. Loading time is 5 times faster and programs can be selected and run from a menu by the press of a single key. To make a Turbo 64 disk all you do is copy the programs from your source disk onto the specially formatted Turbo 64 disk using the Editor.	64	£16.99	Cockroach
Warp 5	Disk – will load any program 5 times faster than normal. Has DOS 5.1 commands e.g. type \$ and get directory. Unique Header Editor. Utility to allow disk drive to play music e.g. God Save The Queen.	64, 1541	£9.95	MPS
Toolkit IV	Disk with comprehensive manual. Can recover corrupted sectors. Fast format (10 secs.) Can change about 30 parameters before format. Fast copy (full disk is under 2 minutes). Fast file copier.	64	£22.95	MPS
1541 Express	Cartridge – two leads clip inside the computer. Works with most business software.	64	£34.95	Ram

MS 2000 COMMODORE MOUSE



The MS 2000 is a beautifully designed peripheral used to move the cursor simply and quickly around the screen like a drawing pen, paint brush or air spray. This popular device is so natural and friendly to use that it will add an exhilarating new dimension to creative art, CAD, design and business drawings such as graphs, pi charts and plans. Full 16 colour simultaneous drawing and painting facility.

The MS 2000 is a high quality mouse with a RUBBER COATED BALL which is quiet and will not lose accuracy through slippage. The hardware incorporates an OPTICAL ENCODING technique in the mouse which has a resolution of 100 points to the inch. It is accurate, reliable and repeatable.

ONLY £64.90 INCL. MS2000 + CASSETTE. DISK OPTION £3.50 (£1.50 p&p)

Compunet "must be the best"

Popular Computing Weekly "hardware excellent, software technically stunning"

Commodore Horizons "certainly the best Mouse for the C64"

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- ☐ SUPPORT MOST MAJOR PRINTERS
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- ☐ 3 INTERNAL SCREEN DUMPS
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- ☐ RESET BUTTON TO HALT PRINTING FROM BUFFER
- ☐ NEAR LETTER QUALITY MODE BUILT IN
- ☐ CAPABLE OF STORING 2 ADDITIONAL FONTS
- ☐ CORRECT GRAPHICS / TEST ASPECT RATIO FOR ALL MAJOR PRINTERS
- ☐ 8 OCTAVE SWITCHES WITH CHANGES CONSTANTLY MONITORED
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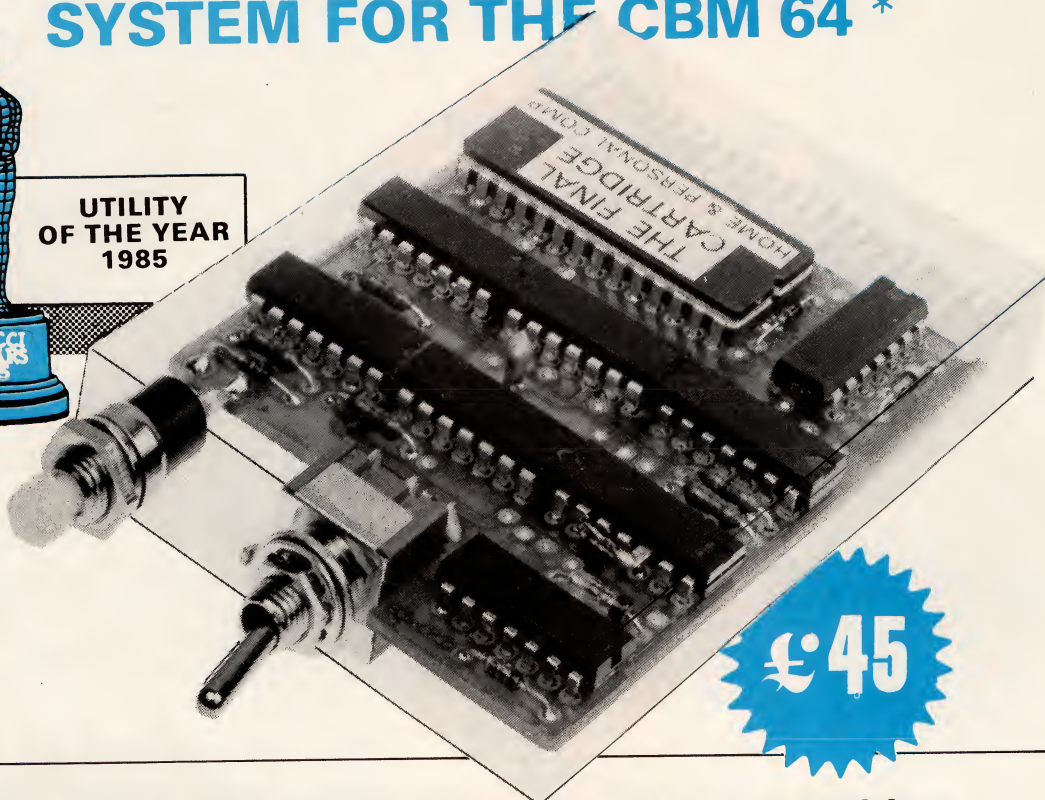
ADD-ON GUIDE

Joysticks / Trackerballs

Product	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
Formula I	Bright blue, 2 fire buttons, microswitch	64, VIC 20	£16.95	Kempston
Formula II	Bright blue, 3 fire buttons, leaf switch	64, VIC 20	£11.95	Kempston
Sure Shot	Black & red, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20	£15.95	Cookridge
Sure Shot Supreme	Black & red, 2 fire buttons, one on handle	64, VIC 20	£17.95	Cookridge
Zipstick	Black & red, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20, C16	£12.95	Cookridge
RB II Marconi	Tackerball with software — cassette or disk	64, VIC 20	Cass £59.50 Disk £69.50	Central Trade Exchange
Competition Pro 5000	Black, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20	£13.50	Dynamics
Formula I	Blue, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20	£16.95	Dynamics
Commodore Joystick	Cream, one fire button on base	64, VIC 20	£7.50	CBM UK Ltd
Commodore Joystick	Charcoal black, one fire button on top of handle, contoured, very sensitive	C16, Plus 4	£9.99	CBM UK Ltd
The Stick	Black & red, hand-held, no base, 2 fire buttons, good with sports games & flight simulation	Fits all with 9 pin D-type connector	£12.99	Lightwave
Delta 3SC	Black, or black with red stripes, 3 fire buttons, light fast action	64, VIC 20	£10.00	Voltmace
Computec	Black, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20	£9.95	Micropride
Atari Joystick	Black, one fire button	64, VIC 20	£7.99	Atari
Atari Trakball	2 buttons, rolling ball in centre	64, VIC 20	£9.99	Atari
Vulcan Gunshot I	Cream & beige, 2 fire buttons, suction pad underneath	64, VIC 20	£7.95	Vulcan
Vulcan Gunshot II	Black, 2 buttons, autofire, suction pad underneath	64, VIC 20	£9.95	Vulcan
Quickshot 1	Black & red, 2 fire buttons	64, VIC 20	£6.95	Spectavideo
Quickshot 2	Black & red, 2 fire buttons, autofire	64, VIC 20	£9.95	Spectavideo
Quickshot 4	Black & red, 2 fire buttons, choice of 3 different handles	64, VIC 20	£13.95	Spectavideo
Quickshot 6	Long base, 3 fire buttons, 2 on handle	64, VIC 20	£9.95	Spectavideo
Quickshot 7	Joycard — 2 buttons on sides, thumb control, 2 lights l.e.d.	64, VIC 20	£10.95	Spectavideo
Quickshot 9	Joyball — half sphere on large base, microswitches, 2 big fire buttons at bottom of unit. Players 1 and 2 switches, autofire. Cream & brown.	64, VIC 20	£13.95	Spectavideo
Hotshot (REVS)	Analogue, designed for Firebird game. REVS, also switchabale to normal, one fire-button	64	£12.95	Meedmore

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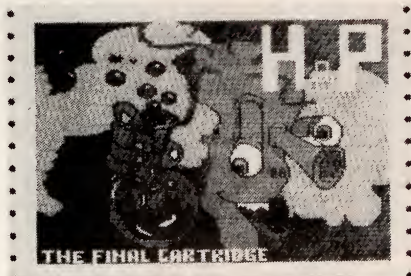
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* works with C128 in the 64 mode.

ADD-ON GUIDE

Joysticks / Trackerballs

Product	Features	Commodore Machine	Price	Company
Turbo Ace	Fire button on steering wheel, speed regulation and centralisation autofire facility	64	£29.95 + £1.50 delivery	Apollo
Ballpoint	Icon manipulation 16 colours (any 4 usable at once), sections of drawings may be picked up & moved, drawings compatible with light pen drawings, optical trackerball, trackerball or joystick.	64	£39.95	Meedmore
Champion	Built-in autofire, 2 fire buttons	64 (C16 & Plus 4 via interfacing)	£9.99	Baylin
Boss	Grey with black handle, heavy duty construction with split second reaction	64 (C16 & Plus/4 via interfacing)	£15.99	Baylin
Bat Handle	Dual fire button	64 (C16 & Plus 4 via interfacing)	£27.99	Baylin
Super 3-way	Control customized for any game, dual fire buttons, direction option, 4 & 8 position, 3 arcade handles	64 (C16 & Plus/4 via interfacing)	£32.99	Baylin
Mach 1	Black with three red buttons. Moulded handgrip and an autofire switch	64, VIC 20	£8.95	Cheetah
Speedking	Hand-held, moulded case, one trigger-fire button	64	£12.99	Konix



ADD-ON GUIDE

MOTHERBOARDS

Stack	4 slot motherboard (adaptor). Has a unique switching system for each of the 4 cartridge slots which allows the user to turn on and off cartridges without removing them from the computer. Vertical cartridge mounts to give compactness in use and ease of access for fitting and removal.	64, VIC 20	£28.00	Meedmore
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SCAN-64	Digitizer plus graphics editor. Comes as a set with optical scanner and mounting bracket, diskette, cable and manual. The function keys open various editing modes with extremely useful commands.	64	£89.50	Jansen

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Product	Features	Machine	Price	Company
Rotronics Portable Case	Smart, executive style case with removable lid. Individually tailored foam insert securely protects micro and cassette recorder during transit. Additional storage space in the lid holds manuals and up to twenty cassettes. All components remain fully operational within the case.	64, VIC 20	£34.49	Rotronics
Datapad 16C	Keypad is a strong metal case. It plugs in externally and comes complete with software to define the keypad to your choice of layout.	64	£34.95 incl.	Voltmace
Beasty Infra-Red Controller	Infra-Red module. Capacity for up to 8 servos. Precision motors of type used in radio-control models. Battery operated. 3 motors in pack.	64	£143.75 (inc VAT)	Commotion Ltd.
RC 1000	Simple, powerful wrist terminal. In 10 seconds you can enter the information you select from your computer by connecting Seiko's Wrist Terminal to your RS232C terminal. Eighty 'pages' of 24 characters can be input. Watch functions – time & calendar. Terminal functions – memo, world time, weekly alarm, schedule alarm.	64	£89.95 cass £99.95 disk	Hattori

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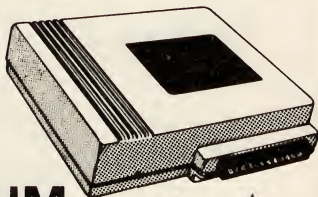
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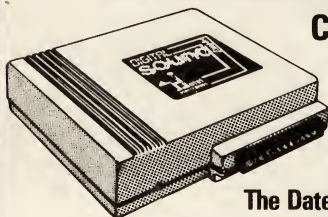
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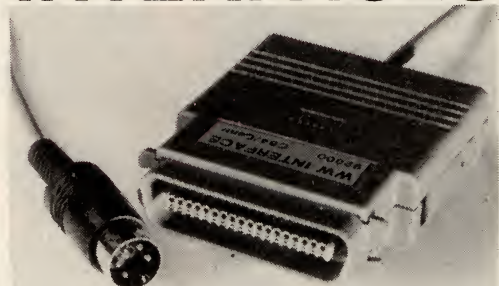
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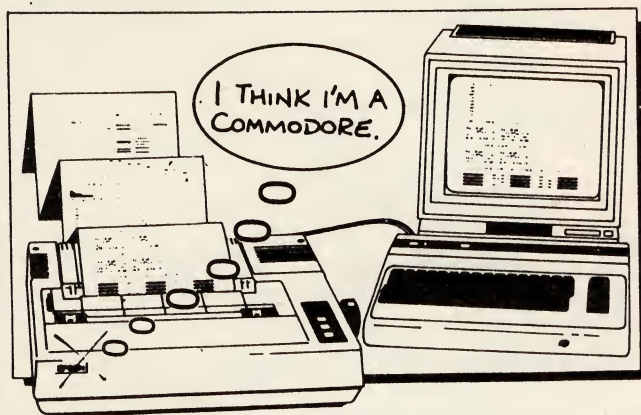
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IFFY



SPACE DOUBT

CRL's last release, *Blade Runner*, received massive amounts of hype, mainly due to its association with the Awesome film of the same name; unfortunately, when the game arrived, it turned out to be a pretty



boring game, although it did have a good soundtrack.

Space Doubt has received very little hype – though I did give you a preview some months ago. To play the game you must first read the accompanying comic, which is really quite funny, if a little long winded. It explains that you are in control of USS Omnibus, taking cargo of food to the planet Niblondis.

All is not as easy as it may sound though as on the way your ship is attacked by Bogloids! These cute little creatures will make holes in the side of your ship, eat your vital food supplies, and even more seriously, they'll kill you. Your only chance is to use the Power Block to mend the holes and kill the Bogloids. Unfortunately your power block doesn't last forever, and to keep it going you must recharge it regularly.

Graphically the game is nice, although really nothing amazing. The music, however, with its bursts of *Close Encounters* and *James Bond*, is really good – not up to Hubbard or Galway, but impressive nonetheless.

If the game were priced at around £4, I would say that it could be a worthwhile purchase, but at £8.95 I feel it is just a little too repetitive to hold anyone's attention for very long.

Price: £8.95
Graphics: ***
Sound: ****
Playability: **
CCI Rating: IFFY
Contact: CRL, CRL House, 9 Kings Yard, Carpenters Row, London E15 2HD. Tel: 01-533 2918.

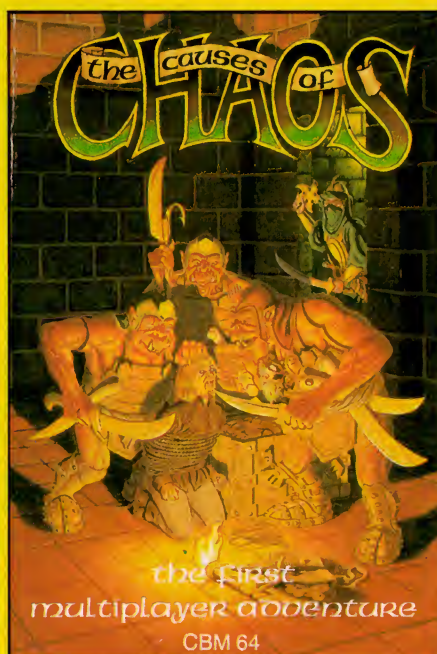
NAFF

THE CAUSES OF CHAOS.

I've completely forgotten the name of the group that brought us the immortal song – 'Nice legs shame about the face!', but in many ways this game is the computer equivalent.

King Arnid the seventh, ruler of Ix, is having trouble: he's lost the crown jewels, and to stop the 'Causes of Chaos' from ruining the country you must rescue them for him!

What makes this game different from the average adventure is that it is multi-player. CRL have tried to capture the feeling of MUD (multi-user-dungeon) on your 64/128. To play the game with friends you must first choose how many of you want to play (1-6), enter your names, then be willing to turn your back each time another player is about to have his turn.



If this seems a little unrealistic to you then blindfolds might be a safer, if more time-consuming option. The Causes of Chaos can be played as a normal adventure, but apart from some very nice loading music, and a nicely redefined character set, it has no graphics – and thus loses out to Level 9 games ten times out of ten.



Overall TCC is a nice concept, and I really don't see anyway they could have improved the playability, but unfortunately the actual game lets it down!

Price: £8.95
Graphics: N/A
Sound: *** (Start-up tune)
Playability: **
CCI Rating: NAFF
Contact: CRL, CRL House, 9 Kings Yard, Carpenters Road, London E15 2HD. Tel: 01-533 2918.

Win Powerful Book!!

If you are interested in strategy games of power and politics, enter this competition and try your luck at winning century Communications' book, Power Plays on the Commodore 64.

The prize will be awarded to the sender of the first correct entry out of our competition sack.

Q Name the two Super Powers.

A

Q Who resigned over the westland affair?

A

Win Biology Course Tutor!!

If you've got an O Level in Biology coming up this summer, don't miss this chance to win a Hill MacGibbon Biology Pan Course Tutor. It provides a complete O Level study and revision course and can be yours if you provide the most interesting answer to the following question.

Q What use could a computer be put to in a biology laboratory?

A
.....

Win a C16/Plus 4 Wordprocessor!!

We've not one but two free copies of Supersoft's Word Perfect Wordprocessor for the C16 and Plus/4 to give away.

In order to win, we are asking you to make as many words as you can out of the word 'PROCESSOR'.

Please list the words you can make on a separate sheet of paper.

I made ... words from 'PROCESSOR'

Win Business Packages!!

Two business programs for the 64 are up for grabs this month – Dialog's Transact Book-keeping System, and Computer Software Associates' Practifile database.

To win one of these packages answer the following question.

Q Name a novel use for a home computer in a small business.

A
.....

Win Beginner's Book!!

New to computing? We are giving away Century Communications' Commodore 64 Micro Guide.

It will go to the sender of the first correct entry to be pulled out of our competition sack.

Answer the following simple questions.

Q What does RAM stand for?

A

Q What does ROM stand for?

A

Win Games and T-shirts!!

The Force is the latest game from Mind Games. Written with the cooperation of Scotland Yard, you can discover your skill at successfully policing areas. (See our sneak preview in this issue!)

We are giving away a copy of the game and a Force T-shirt to the first 10 correct entries pulled out of our competition sack. Just answer the following questions:

Q Which Great Train Robber lives in idyllic surroundings in South America?

A

Q Name the three most notorious mass murderers.

A

Win a Modem and Micronet Subs!!

We are offering you the chance to enter the world of communications. Our first prize for this competition is a Tandata modem and one year's free subscription to Micronet.

Two runners up will each receive one year's free subscription to Micronet.

Prizes will be awarded to the first three entries out of our competition sack which correctly answer the following questions.

Q From what does the name 'Micronet 800' derive?

A

Q From what two words does the term 'modem' derive?

A

Win Advanced Computer Guide!!

There is a free copy of Prentice Hall's Commodore 64 Advanced User Guide to be won. It will go to the sender of the most convincing answer to the following question.

Q What piece of hardware would you like the 64 to have, and why?

A

Name

Age

Computer owned

Address

The closing date for these competitions is 7 April 1986.

Send your entries to:

CCI

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London EC1R ONE

Please indicate on the envelope which competition(s) you are entering, eg. The Force Competition. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of CCI, please feel free to send us a photocopy of the completed competition page.

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- Q. Does ULTIMON! Support disk and cassette I/O?
- A. Yes, and it is fully automatic.
- Q. Can ULTIMON! stop a program and then dump it to cassette or disk?
- A. Yes, with ease.
- Q. Can ULTIMON! be used as a teaching tool for 6502 machine code?
- A. Yes, ULTIMON! continually updates its display during single step and trace.
- Q. Does ULTIMON! come complete with documentation?
- A. Yes, and we give a supplement giving some ideas on its use.
- Q. Can ULTIMON! dump to a printer?
- A. Yes.

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LIST OF COMMANDS

A - Alter memory.
B - Break point set.
C - Compare two blocks of memory.
D - Disassemble memory.
E - Examine memory contents.
F - Fill memory.
FM - Format a diskette.
G - Go at address.
GP - Go at program counter.
I - Basic Interpreter on/off.
J - Jump to subroutine at address.
JP - Jump to subroutine at PC.
L - Locate a string of bytes.
M - Move a block of memory.

P - Alter processor status register.
Q - Quit out of Ultimon!
R - Read from device.
S - Single step.
T - Trace through memory.
U - Display update mode.
W - Write to device.
X - One byte read.
-- Pop stack.
-- Push stack.
P - Dump screen to printer.
S - Cartridge on/off.
Alter 6502 registers
Link device type select
Link device number select

A X Y NV BDICZ 006A 02F4 0303 LINK
00 00 00 00000000 B0 E0 8A D1:S
PC BRKO BRK1 BRK2 BRK3 BRK4 BRK5
0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
SP 0101 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
01F6 CD D1 CC 02 E0 54 D4 C1 58 C0 90
AD 0000 00 00 FF FF 00 C0 00 FF(a ..
0008 00 00 0C C0 00 00 00 00 ...C...
0010 C0 80 00 00 43 00 00 0B (a ...C...
0018 00 00 00 00 30 00 00 00 ...0...
0020 06 01 03 01 15 F1 A3 F6qEv
0028 00 00 0C 00 A3 F6 00 0CEv..
0030 8A 00 3E 02 3F 02 FF FF ...>?...
0038 00 00 FF FF FF 00 00 00
0040 00 03 00 00 00 00 00 00
0048 00 00 FF 00 01 00 FE 00
0050 80 00 00 27 10 25 00 00 ...'...%..
0058 40 7C 00 00 00 00 42 BC (a!...B<..
0060 00 00 00 02 42 BC 02 00BL
0068 3F BC B0 00 00 02 00 7F ?<0.....
0070 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0078 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
>
ULTIMON! (c) 1986 by John Lawson

A X Y NV BDICZ 006A 02F4 0303 LINK
00 00 00 00000000 B0 E0 8A D1:S
PC BRKO BRK1 BRK2 BRK3 BRK4 BRK5
0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000
SP 0101 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
01F6 CD D1 CC 02 E0 54 D4 C1 58 C0 90
AD F11B SEI 78 x
F11C LDX EFF A2 FF ..
F11E LDA D209 AD 09 D2 --R
F121 CMP EC C9 EC 11
F123 BEQ F13A F0 15 p.
F125 LDA 0244 AD 44 02 -D.
F128 BEQ F13A F0 10 p.
F12A SEI 78 x
F12B DEX CA J
F12C BNE F12B DO FD P)
F12E DEY 88 .
F12F BNE F12B DO FA Pz
F131 LDA D508 AD 08 D5 --U
F134 LDX EFF A2 FF ..
F136 STX 07 86 07 ..
F138 LDX E00 A2 00 ..
>D F11B
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DODGY

BASILDON BOND



Basildon Bond

Personally I find Russ Abbot about as funny as being mugged, although my editor assures me he's a "very nice man". Anyway, getting away from my feelings about his comic ability and onto the game, which I really think I ought to!

Things did not start well. If there is one thing I dislike more than Russ Abbot's humour, it's his records, and sure enough this game loads accompanied by the dulcet theme of Russ' latest single. When the game eventually loaded I set about playing the game, in which you must rescue Russ from a rival comedy act (unfortunately you don't get any points for letting him die!).

As Basildon Bond you must travel around matching jokes to their answers. This is not as easy as it sounds, firstly because of the jokes and secondly because of the marauding cameras and shaking heads, which serve to make life very difficult. Before you can start on your quest however you must find a floppy disk so that you can turn the computer on (à la PC DOS).

Contrary to what you might think, this game isn't all bad! The graphics are O.K., with some smooth animation, and the sound, although it is only basic FX, is also quite good. If Impossible Mission had never been released this game might have been a real success, now however it is less likely.



Graphics: ***
Sound: ***
Playability: **
CCI Rating: DODGY
Contact: Probe Software, 155 Mitcham Road, London SW17. Tel: 01-672 9179.

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It's down periscope and away in *Harbour Attack* from Commodore. You are the captain of a submarine steering the way through dangerous waters to reach the enemy port. Battle your way through mines, submarine nets and aeroplane attacks and destroy the enemy cargo ship.

Stay on dry land, don your stetson and become *Tycoon Tex*, from Gremlin Graphics. As a 'rootin, tootin' oil tycoon, your speedy draw will be frequently put to the test as you fight off bombs and missiles in order to complete your pipeline.

If land and sea aren't enough for you take to the air in *Skramble*, from Anirog. The year is 2184. Earth has been taken over by the Cobrons who have left a super intelligent command module in control. You have undertaken the suicidal mission of destroying the base. Good luck...you'll need it!

A space shooting gallery is the setting for *Anirog's Space Commander*. Gain a good rank by blasting at targets which hover

Win a jackpot, become the Star Commander, but beware the Petals of Doom...all in this month's selection of C16 games.

just out of range before swooping in for the kill. Beware the target snatchers which reduce your score potential.

A lot of flower power is required in Gremlin Graphics' *Petals Of Doom*. Trapped within an eerie space cavern, your only way out is to help the flower plantation reach full growth. But the plant-hating bugs are out to trample your blooms.

Squirm is the delightful name of the Mastertronics game which has you racing around a hive collecting eggs laid by the Queen

Squirm. This will greatly upset all the other squirms, so look out.

And now for something completely different, as they say! *Anirog's Flight Path 737* is 'an advanced pilot trainer'. As the pilot of a high performance jet airliner, you must take off from an airfield surrounded by mountains, climb safely over them and land in the valleys below.

If you think that's crazy, try Commodore's *Crazy Golf*. You are faced with an eighteen hole course, each with its own set of obstacles which must be either avoided or used to your advantage.

Get hustling with *Bubble Bus' Hustler*. It's a blend of six pool-type games which can be played by one or two players. You don't have to be a pool fanatic to be able to put the ball into the pocket.

After all that, are you feeling lucky? Yes? Well, try your hand at Mastertronics' *Vega Jackpot*. We're talking big money here with each spin costing one pound! Gamble, nudge and shuffle your way to a winning £250.

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Commodore 128

Memory Map:

(128 Mode)

Without a map it can be difficult to make the most of your 128. Last month we looked at the zero page memory map, here we look at locations \$0100 to \$0FFF

This is part two of the Commodore 128 Memory map covering memory locations \$0100 (256) to \$0FFF (4095). Some of you ex C-64 buffs will notice how the map is almost identical in many areas. The cassette buffer has moved to \$0B00 (2816). This area is also used as a buffer by the disk auto boot routine. Most of the vectors are in the same locations with the odd funny interspersed. Charget is now located at \$0380 (896) and the keyboard buffer has crept up to \$034A (842). This lot should keep you busy until next month's memory map.

HEX	DECIMAL	
0100-010F	256-271	: Filename build area (16 bytes)
0110	272	: Dos loop counter
0111	273	: Dos filename 1 length
0112	274	: Dos disk drive 1
0113	275	: Dos filename 2 length
0114	276	: Dos disk drive 2
0115-0116	277-278	: Dos filename 2 address
0117-0118	279-280	: Bload/Bsave starting address
0119-011A	281-282	: Bload/Bsave ending address
011B	283	: Dos logical address
011C	284	: Dos physical address
011D	285	: Dos secondary address
011E	286	: Dos record length
011F	287	: Dos bank
0120-0121	288-289	: Dos disk I.D.
0122	290	: Dos disk I.D. flag
0123	291	: Pointer to begin no.
0124	292	: Pointer to end no.
0125	293	: Dollar flag
0126	294	: Comma flag
0127	295	: Counter
0128	296	: Sign exponent
0129	297	: Pointer to exponent
012A	298	: Number of digits before decimal point
012B	299	: Justify flag
012C	300	: Number of positions before decimal point (field)
012D	301	: Number of positions after decimal point (field)
012E	302	: +/- flag (field)
012F	303	: Exponent flag (field)
0130	304	: Switch ?
0131	305	: Character counter (field)
0132	306	: Sign number
0133	307	: Blank flag
0134	308	: Pointer to beginning of field
0135	309	: Length of format
0136	310	: Pointer to end of field
0137-01FF	311-511	: System Stack
0200-02A1	512-673	: Input buffer (162 bytes)
02A2-02AE	674-686	: Subroutine. LDA(-),y from any bank
02AF-02BD	687-701	: Subroutine. STA(-),y to any bank
02BE-02CC	702-716	: Subroutine. LDA(-),y to any bank
02CD-02E2	717-738	: Subroutine. JSR xxxx to any bank and back
02E3-02FB	739-763	: Subroutine. JMP xxxx to any bank
02FC-02FD	764-765	: Vector. Additional function routine
02FE-02FF	766-767	: Vector. Function cartridge users
0300-0301	768-769	: Vector. Print BASIC error message
0302-0303	770-771	: Vector. BASIC warm start
0304-0305	772-773	: Vector. Tokenize BASIC text
0306-0307	774-775	: Vector. BASIC text list
0308-0309	776-777	: Vector. BASIC character dispatch
030A-030B	778-779	: Vector. BASIC token evaluation
030C-030D	780-781	: Vector. Escape token crunch
030E-030F	782-783	: ..List..
0310-0311	784-785	: ..And execute..
0312-0313	786-787	: 60 Hz interrupt vector (before jiffy)

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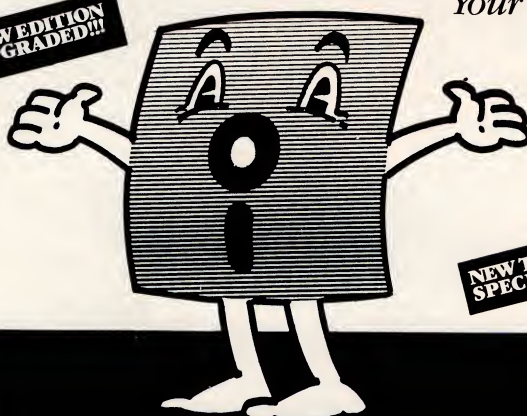
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Feature

0314-0315	788-789	: IRQ vector
0316-0317	790-791	: Break interrupt vector
0318-0319	792-793	: NMI interrupt vector
031A-031B	794-795	: Kernal OPEN vector
031C-031D	796-797	: Kernal CLOSE vector
031E-031F	798-799	: Kernal CHKIN vector
0320-0321	800-801	: Kernal CHKOUT vector
0322-0323	802-803	: Kernal CLRCHN vector
0324-0325	804-805	: Kernal CHRIN vector
0326-0327	806-807	: Kernal CHROUT vector
0328-0329	808-809	: Kernal STOP vector
032A-032B	810-811	: Kernal GETIN vector
032C-032D	812-813	: Kernal CLALL vector
032E-032F	814-815	: Monitor command vector
0330-0331	816-817	: Kernal LOAD vector
0332-0333	818-819	: Kernal SAVE vector
0334-0335	820-821	: Editor print 'control' indirect
0336-0337	822-823	: Editor print 'shifted' indirect
0338-0339	824-825	: Editor print 'escape' indirect
033A-033B	826-827	: Editor keyscan logic indirect
033C-033D	828-829	: Editor store key indirect
033E-0349	830-841	: Vectors to keyboard matrix decode tables
034A-0353	842-851	: Keyboard buffer (10 bytes)
0354-035D	852-861	: Bitmap of tabs (10 bytes)
035E-0361	862-865	: Bitmap of line wraps
0362-036B	866-875	: Logical file number table
036C-0375	876-885	: Primary device number table
0376-037F	886-895	: Secondary addresses table
0380-039E	896-926	: CHRGET Subroutine to get next byte of BASIC text
0386	902	: CHRGO* Entry to get same byte of text again
039F-03AA	927-938	: Shared rom (0) fetch subroutine
03AB-03B6	939-950	: Shared rom (1) fetch subroutine
03B7-03BF	951-959	: Index1 indirect fetch
03C0-03C8	960-968	: Index2 indirect fetch
03C9-03D1	969-977	: Text pointer index
03D2-03D4	978-980	: Numeric constant for BASIC, downloaded from rom
03D5	981	: Context for SYS,POKE,PEEK. Set by BANK command
03D6-03D9	982-985	: Temp for instr
03DA	986	: Bank pointer for string
03DB-03DE	987-990	: Temp work space for SSHAPE
03DF	991	: FAC#1 overflow digit
03E0-03E1	992-993	: Temp for SPRSAV
03E2-03FF	994-1023	: Packed foreground/background colour nybbles
03E3-03FF	995-1023	: Packed foreground/multicolour 1 colour nybbles
0400-07E7	1024-2023	: Vic 40 column text screen
0800-09FF	1048-2559	: BASIC run time stack (512 bytes)
0A00-0A01	2560-2561	: Vector to restart system (usually BASIC warm start)
0A02	2562	: Kernal warm/cold initialization status byte
0A03	2563	: PAL/NTSC system flag
0A04	2564	: NMI status flag
0A05-0A06	2565-2566	: Pointer. Bottom of memory for O.S.
0A07-0A08	2567-2568	: Pointer. Top of memory for O.S.
0A09-0A0A	2569-2570	: Tape handler preserves IRQ indirect here
0A0B	2571	: TOD sense during cassette I/O
0A0C	2572	: Temp for cassette read
0A0D	2573	: Temp DIIRQ indicator for cassette read
0A0E	2574	: Fast serial timeout flag
0A0F	2575	: RS-232 Enables
0A10	2576	: RS-232 Control register
0A11	2577	: RS-232 Command register
0A12-0A13	2578-2579	: RS-232 User baud rate
0A14	2580	: RS-232 Status register
0A15	2581	: RS-232 Number of bits to send
0A16-0A17	2582-2583	: RS-232 Baud rate. Full bit time
0A18	2584	: RS-232 Index to end of input buffer
0A19	2585	: RS-232 Index to start of input buffer
0A1A	2586	: RS-232 Index to end of output buffer
0A1B	2587	: RS-232 Index to start of output buffer
0A1C	2588	: Fast serial internal/external flag
0A1D-0A1F	2589-2591	: Decrementing jiffy register
0A20	2592	: Keyboard buffer size
0A21	2593	: Control 's' flag (home cursor)
0A22	2594	: Enable key repeats. 128=all, 64=none
0A23	2595	: Delay between key repeats
0A24	2596	: Delay before a key starts repeating
0A25	2597	: Delay between C= and shift toggles

0A26	2598	: Vic cursor mode (blinking, solid)
0A27	2599	: Vic cursor disable
0A28	2600	: Vic cursor blink counter
0A29	2601	: Vic cursor character before blink
0A2A	2602	: Vic cursor colour before blink
0A2B	2603	: VDC cursor mode (when enabled)
0A2C	2004	: Vic text screen/character base pointer
0A2D	2605	: Vic bit-map base pointer
0A2E	2606	: VDC text screen base
0A2F	2607	: VDC attribute base
0A30	2608	: Temp pointer to last line for LOOP4
0A31-0A32	2609-2610	: Temp for 80 column routines
0A33	2611	: VDC cursor colour before blink
0A34	2612	: Vic split screen raster value
0A35	2613	: Save x reg during bank operations
0A36	2614	: Counter for pal systems
0A37	2615	: Save system speed during tape & serial bus operations
0A38	2616	: Save sprite enables
0A39	2617	: Save blanking status during tape operations
0A3A	2618	: Flag set by user wanting full control of vic
0A3B	2619	: Hi byte of secondary address of vic screen
0A3C-0A3D	2620-2621	: 8563 block fill ?
0A3E-0A3F	2622-2623	: ?
0A40-0A47	2624-2631	: Screen variables when 40/80 mode changes
0A80-0ABF	2632-2751	: Monitor workspace
OAC0	2752	: Current function key rom bank
OAC1-OAC4	2753-2756	: Physical address table (I.D.'s of logged in cards) ?
OAC5	2757	: Reserved for foreign screen editors
OAC6-OAFF	2758-2815	: Reserved for system
OB00-OB00	2816-3008	: Cassette buffer
OB00-OBFF	2816-3071	: Used as a buffer for the disk auto boot
OC00-OCFF	3072-3327	: RS-232 Input buffer
OD00-ODFF	3328-3583	: RS-232 Output buffer
OE00-OFFF	3584-4095	: Sprite definition area (512 bytes)

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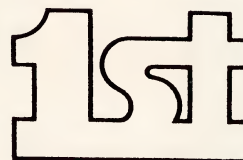
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Graphics on the 128

CLOCK draws a grandfather type clock face on the screen and keeps time using the internal clock. The starting time is entered in the standard HHMMSS format, eg 100555 = 10.05 and 55 seconds.

A selection of long and short routines showing some of the graphics possible in 128 basic, is provided by John Picking.

CLOCK

```

READY.
10 CLR : DEF FNA(X)=X*/180)
20 COLOR 0,1:COLOR4,1:COLOR1,2
30 GRAPHICO,1 : INPUT "TIME ";TI$
40 GRAPHIC1,1
50 SCALE 0
60 GOSUB 280
70 S=VAL(RIGHT$(TI$,2)):M=VAL(MID$(TI$,3,2)):H=VAL(LEFT$(TI$,2))
80 C=H*30+(INT(M/12)*6)
90 DO : LOOP WHILE TI$=X$
100 X$=TI$ :WIDTH2
110 DRAW 0,160,100 TO 50;S*6
120 S=S+1 : IF S=60 THEN S=0 :GOSUB200
130 WIDTH1: DRAW 1,160,100 TO 50;(S*6)
140 GOSUB 160
150 GOTO 90
160 REM MINUTE & HOUR HAND
170 A=M*6
180 WIDTH2 : DRAW 1,160,100 TO 55;A
190 DRAW 1,160,100 TO 40;C :RETURN
200 WIDTH2: DRAW 0,160,100 TO 55;A
210 M=M+1
220 IF M=60 THEN M=0 :H=H+1:IFH=12 THEN H=0
230 IF M/12=INT(M/12) THEN BEGIN
240 IFC>0THEN DRAW 0,160,100 TO 40;C-1
250 DRAW 0,160,100 TO 40;C
260 DRAW 0,160,100 TO 40;C+1 : C=C+6:BEND
270 GOTO 160
280 DRAW 1,17,0 TO 17,200 : DRAW 1,306,0TO306,200 : WIDTH1
290 CIRCLE 1,160,100,90,90
300 CIRCLE 1,160,100,67
310 BOX 1,65,5,255,195
320 BOX 1,63,3,257,197
330 DRAW 1,120,10TO70,10TO70,60:CIRCLE1,120,60,50,50,270,360:PAINT1,72,12
340 DRAW 1,200,10TO250,10TO250,60:CIRCLE1,200,60,50,50,0,90:PAINT1,248,12
350 DRAW 1,120,190TO70,190TO70,140:CIRCLE1,120,140,50,50,180,270:PAINT1,72,188
360 DRAW 1,200,190TO250,190TO250,140:CIRCLE1,200,140,50,50,90,180:PAINT1,248,188
370 COLOR1,10:CIRCLE 1,160,100,4 : PAINT1,160,100:COLOR1,2
380 SSHAPE A$,152,92,175,115
390 SPRSAV A$,1 : SPRITE 1,1,2 : MOVSPR1,175,142
400 PAINT 1,160,15
410 CIRCLE 0,160,100,88,88
420 COLOR1,10:PAINT1,40,0,1
430 DRAW 0,37,0TO37,200 :DRAW 0,286,0TO286,200 :COLOR1,2
440 I=30 :X=160 : Y=100 : WIDTH 2
450 GOSUB 500
460 FOR I=0 TO 360 STEP 6 : WIDTH 1
470 IF (I/30)=INT(I/30) THEN DRAW 0,160,100 TO 60;I : DRAW 1,RDOT(0),RDOT(1) TO
8;I : GOTO 490
480 DRAW 0,160,100 TO 64;I : DRAW 1,RDOT(0),RDOT(1) TO 4;I
490 NEXT : WIDTH 1 :RETURN
500 REM I
510 I=30
520 LOCATE 160+(72*SIN(FNA(I))),100-(72*COS(FNA(I)))
530 DRAW 0,RDOT(0),RDOT(1) TO 3;I+270 TO 7;I+90 TO 3;I+270 TO 11;I TO 3;I+270 TO
7;I+90
540 REM II
550 I=60
560 LOCATE 160+(73*SIN(FNA(I))),100-(73*COS(FNA(I)))
570 DRAW0,RDOT(0),RDOT(1) TO 5;I+270 TO 10;I+90 TO 3;I+270 TO 11;I TO 3;I+90 TO
10;I+270 TO 3;I+90 TO 11;I+180
580 REM III
590 I=90
600 LOCATE 160+(72*SIN(FNA(I))),100-(72*COS(FNA(I)))

```


PAGE MISSING

PAGE MISSING


```

330 PRINT "ERROR IN LINE";LN: GOTO 370
340 READ D: IF SC<>D GOTO 320
350 PRINT: PRINT SPC(8) "LOADED": PRINT
360 PRINT "TO USE, TYPE: SYS 49152": PRINT
370 END
380 REM
390 REM MACHINE CODE DATA FOLLOWS
400 REM
500 DATA 24,165,43,105,255,133,253,165,1143
510 DATA 44,105,255,133,254,160,0,162,1113
520 DATA 0,32,192,192,32,192,192,32,864
530 DATA 192,192,32,192,192,24,165,253,1242
540 DATA 105,1,141,11,193,165,254,105,975
550 DATA 0,141,12,193,24,32,192,192,786
560 DATA 240,48,201,143,240,28,201,32,1133
570 DATA 240,32,201,34,208,238,138,240,1331
580 DATA 4,162,0,240,231,162,1,208,1008
590 DATA 227,32,192,192,240,20,201,58,1162
600 DATA 240,11,32,201,192,144,242,76,1138
610 DATA 13,192,138,208,207,32,201,192,1183
620 DATA 144,202,165,253,205,11,193,208,1381
630 DATA 24,165,254,205,12,193,208,17,1078
640 DATA 32,201,192,32,201,192,32,201,1083
650 DATA 192,32,201,192,32,201,192,144,1186
660 DATA 20,32,252,192,177,253,201,58,1185
670 DATA 208,8,32,201,192,32,192,192,1057
680 DATA 144,208,32,192,192,160,1,177,1106
690 DATA 253,208,188,200,177,253,208,183,1670
700 DATA 24,165,253,105,3,133,45,165,893
710 DATA 254,105,0,133,46,32,51,165,786
720 DATA 160,0,185,13,193,153,119,2,825
730 DATA 200,192,4,208,245,132,198,96,1275
740 DATA 230,253,208,2,230,254,177,253,1607
750 DATA 96,24,165,45,229,253,133,251,1196
760 DATA 165,46,229,254,133,252,165,253,1497
770 DATA 133,34,165,254,133,35,160,1,915
780 DATA 177,34,136,145,34,230,34,208,998
790 DATA 2,230,35,56,165,251,233,1,973
800 DATA 133,251,176,234,165,252,233,0,1444
810 DATA 133,252,176,226,56,165,253,233,1494
820 DATA 1,133,253,165,254,233,0,133,1172
830 DATA 254,24,96,0,0,67,76,82,599
840 DATA 13,-1,13

```

READY.

```

00001 0000 ; LISTING 2
00002 0000 ;
00003 0000 ; *** CRUNCH ***
00004 0000 ;
00005 0000 ; BARRY PARKES JAN '86
00006 0000 ;
00007 0000 ; CALL THIS ROUTINE USING SYS 49152
00008 0000 ; TO REMOVE REMS AND EXTRANEIOUS SPACES
00009 0000 ; FROM A BASIC PROGRAM.
00010 0000 ;
00011 0000 TXTTAB=$2B ;START OF BASIC TEXT
00012 0000 VARTAB=$2D ; " " VARIABLES
00013 0000 KEYD=$277 ;KEYBOARD BUFFER
00014 0000 NDX=$C6 ;NO OF KEYBOARD CHARS
00015 0000 ;
00016 0000 BTCNT=$FB ;BYTE COUNT FOR MOVE
00017 0000 TXTPTR=$FD ;BASIC TEXT POINTER
00018 0000 INDEX=$22 ; " POINTER " "
00019 0000 ;
00020 0000 RCHAIN=$A533 ;RE-CHAIN BASIC LINES
00021 0000 ;
00022 0000 ; ENTRY POINT
00023 0000 ;
00024 0000 *=$C000
00025 0000 ;
00026 0000 18 CRUNCH CLC ;INITIALISE TEXT POINTER
00027 0001 A5 2B LDA TXTTAB ;START OF BASIC
00028 0003 69 FF ADC #$FF ;MINUS 1
00029 0005 85 FD STA TXTPTR
00030 0007 A5 2C LDA TXTTAB+1
00031 0009 69 FF ADC #$FF
00032 000B 85 FE STA TXTPTR+1
00033 000D ;
00034 000D A0 00 LINE LDY #0 ;ENSURE Y REG CLEAR
00035 000F A2 00 LDX #0 ;RESET QUOTE FLAG (X REG)

```


Machine Code

00036	C011	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	;SKIP LINK ADDRESS
00037	C014	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	
00038	C017	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	;SKIP LINE NO
00039	C01A	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	
00040	C01D	18	CLC	;NOTE START OF LINE ADDRESS
00041	C01E	A5 FD	LDA TXTPTR	
00042	C020	69 01	ADC #1	
00043	C022	8D 0B C1	STA STRLN	
00044	C025	A5 FE	LDA TXTPTR+1	
00045	C027	69 00	ADC #0	
00046	C029	8D 0C C1	STA STRLN+1	
00047	C02C			
00048	C02C	18	GCHR CLC	;INC POINTER AND GET CHAR
00049	C02D	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	
00050	C030	F0 30	BEQ EOL	;END OF LINE ?
00051	C032	C9 8F	CMP #\$8F	;NO - REM TOKEN ?
00052	C034	F0 1C	BEQ RTOKN	
00053	C036	C9 20	CMP #\$20	;NO - IS IT SPACE ?
00054	C038	F0 20	BEQ SPC	
00055	C03A	C9 22	CMP #\$22	;NO - IS IT " ?
00056	C03C	D0 EE	BNE GCHR	
00057	C03E	8A	TXA	;YES - QUOTE MODE ?
00058	C03F	F0 04	BEQ SFG	
00059	C041	A2 00	LDX #0	;YES - RESET FLAG
00060	C043	F0 E7	BEQ GCHR	;ALWAYS
00061	C045	A2 01	SFG LDX #1	;NO - SET FLAG
00062	C047	D0 E3	BNE GCHR	;ALWAYS
00063	C049			
00064	C049			;NEXT SECTION DEALS WITH REMS
00065	C049			
00066	C049	20 C0 C0	RMCHR JSR INCBPT	;GET NEXT CHARACTER
00067	C04C	F0 14	BEQ EOL	;END OF LINE ?
00068	C04E	C9 3A	CMP #\$3A	;NO - COLON ?
00069	C050	F0 0B	BEQ MOVDWN	
00070	C052	20 C9 C0	RTOKN JSR MOVMEM	;NO - MOVE TEXT DOWN ONE
00071	C055	90 F2	BCC RMCHR	;ALWAYS
00072	C057			
00073	C057	4C 0D C0	LINELK JMP LINE	;LINK TO LINE
00074	C05A			
00075	C05A	8A	SPC TXA	;QUOTE MODE ?
00076	C05B	D0 CF	BNE GCHR	;YES - ALLOW SPACE TO STAY
00077	C05D	20 C9 C0	MOVDWN JSR MOVMEM	;NO - DELETE IT
00078	C060	90 CA	BCC GCHR	;ALWAYS
00079	C062			
00080	C062	A5 FD	EOL LDA TXTPTR	;BLANK LINE ?
00081	C064	CD 0B C1	CMP STRLN	
00082	C067	D0 18	BNE NBLNK	
00083	C069	A5 FE	LDA TXTPTR+1	
00084	C06B	CD 0C C1	CMP STRLN+1	
00085	C06E	D0 11	BNE NBLNK	
00086	C070	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	;YES - DELETE IT
00087	C073	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	
00088	C076	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	
00089	C079	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	
00090	C07C	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	
00091	C07F	90 14	BCC TSTEND	;ALWAYS
00092	C081			
00093	C081	20 FC C0	NBLNK JSR DPT	;DECREMENT TEXT POINTER
00094	C084	B1 FD	LDA (TXTPTR),Y	;WAS LAST CHAR A COLON ?
00095	C086	C9 3A	CMP #\$3A	
00096	C088	D0 08	BNE NOEXS	;NO
00097	C08A	20 C9 C0	JSR MOVMEM	;YES - DELETE IT
00098	C08D	20 C0 C0	JSR INCBPT	;RE-ALIGN TEXT POINTER
00099	C090	90 D0	BCC EOL	;CHECK FOR MORE
00100	C092	20 C0 C0	NOEXS JSR INCBPT	;RE-ALIGN TEXT POINTER
00101	C095			
00102	C095	A0 01	TSTEND LDY #1	;TEST FOR PROGRAM END
00103	C097	B1 FD	LDA (TXTPTR),Y	
00104	C099	D0 BC	BNE LINELK	
00105	C09B	C8	INY	
00106	C09C	B1 FD	LDA (TXTPTR),Y	
00107	C09E	D0 B7	BNE LINELK	
00108	C0A0	18	CLC	;IS END
00109	C0A1	A5 FD	LDA TXTPTR	;RE-SET VARIABLES POINTER
00110	C0A3	69 03	ADC #3	
00111	C0A5	85 2D	STA VARTAB	
00112	C0A7	A5 FE	LDA TXTPTR+1	
00113	C0A9	69 00	ADC #0	
00114	C0AB	85 2E	STA VARTAB+1	
00115	C0AD	20 33 A5	JSR RCHAIN	;RE-CHAIN BASIC LINES
00116	C0B0	A0 00	LDY #0	;TRANSFER CLR COMMAND
00117	C0B2	B9 0D C1	MSGLP LDA MSG,Y	;TO KEYBOARD BUFFER


```

00118 C0B5 99 77 02      STA KEYD,Y
00119 C0B8 C8          INY
00120 C0B9 C0 04        CPY #4
00121 C0BB D0 F5        BNE MSGLP
00122 C0BD 84 C6        STY NDX          ;SET CHARACTER COUNT
00123 C0BF 60          RTS          ;EXIT TO BASIC
00124 C0C0              ;
00125 C0C0              ;
00126 C0C0              ; SUBROUTINE TO INCREMENT TEXT POINTER
00127 C0C0              ; AND GET NEXT CHARACTER
00128 C0C0              ;
00129 C0C0 E6 FD        INCBPT INC TXTPTR          ;INCREMENT POINTER
00130 C0C2 D0 02        BNE OVFL
00131 C0C4 E6 FE        INC TXTPTR+1
00132 C0C6 B1 FD        OVFL LDA (TXTPTR),Y        ;GET CHARACTER
00133 C0C8 60          RTS          ;RETURN
00134 C0C9              ;
00135 C0C9              ;
00136 C0C9              ; SUBROUTINE TO MOVE WHOLE BASIC PROGRAM DOWN
00137 C0C9              ; BY ONE LOCATION. ALSO DECREMENTS TEXT POINTER
00138 C0C9              ; TO RE-ALIGN IT.
00139 C0C9              ;
00140 C0C9 18          MOVMEM CLC          ;SET NO OF BYTES
00141 C0CA A5 2D        LDA VARTAB
00142 C0CC E5 FD        SBC TXTPTR
00143 C0CE 85 FB        STA BTCNT
00144 C0D0 A5 2E        LDA VARTAB+1
00145 C0D2 E5 FE        SBC TXTPTR+1
00146 C0D4 85 FC        STA BTCNT+1
00147 C0D6 A5 FD        LDA TXTPTR          ;SET START ADDRESS
00148 C0D8 85 22        STA INDEX
00149 C0DA A5 FE        LDA TXTPTR+1
00150 C0DC 85 23        STA INDEX+1
00151 C0DE              ;
00152 C0DE A0 01        MOVLP LDY #1          ;MOVE BYTE DOWN
00153 C0E0 B1 22        LDA (INDEX),Y
00154 C0E2 88          DEY
00155 C0E3 91 22        STA (INDEX),Y
00156 C0E5 E6 22        INC INDEX          ;INCREMENT POINTER
00157 C0E7 D0 02        BNE OFL
00158 C0E9 E6 23        INC INDEX+1
00159 C0EB 38          OFL SEC          ;DECREMENT AND TEST COUNT
00160 C0EC A5 FB        LDA BTCNT
00161 C0EE E9 01        SBC #1
00162 C0F0 85 FB        STA BTCNT
00163 C0F2 B0 EA        BCS MOVLP
00164 C0F4 A5 FC        LDA BTCNT+1
00165 C0F6 E9 00        SBC #0
00166 C0F8 85 FC        STA BTCNT+1
00167 C0FA B0 E2        BCS MOVLP
00168 C0FC              ;
00169 C0FC 38          DPT SEC          ;RE-ALIGN TEXT POINTER
00170 C0FD A5 FD        LDA TXTPTR
00171 C0FF E9 01        SBC #1
00172 C101 85 FD        STA TXTPTR
00173 C103 A5 FE        LDA TXTPTR+1
00174 C105 E9 00        SBC #0
00175 C107 85 FE        STA TXTPTR+1
00176 C109 18          CLC
00177 C10A 60          RTS          ;RETURN
00178 C10B              ;
00179 C10B 00          STRLN .BYTE 0          ;START OF LINE POINTER
00180 C10C 00          .BYTE 0
00181 C10D              ;
00182 C10D 43 4C 52      MSG .BYTE 'CLR'        ;MESSAGE FOR KEYBOARD BUFFER
00183 C110 0D          .BYTE #0D          ;RETURN CHARACTER
00184 C111              ;
00185 C111              .END

```

ERRORS = 00000

SYMBOL TABLE

SYMBOL VALUE

BTCNT	00FB	CRUNCH	C000	DPT	C0FC	EOL	C062
GCHR	C02C	INCBPT	C0C0	INDEX	0022	KEYD	0277
LINE	C00D	LINELK	C057	MOVDWN	C05D	MOVLP	C0DE
MOVMEM	C0C9	MSG	C10D	MSGLP	C0B2	NBLNK	C081
NDX	00C6	NOEXS	C092	OFL	C0EB	OVFL	C0C6
RCHAIN	A533	RMCHR	C049	RTOKN	C052	SFG	C045
SPC	C05A	STRLN	C10B	TSTEND	C095	TXTPTR	00FD
TXTTAB	002B	VARTAB	002D				

END OF ASSEMBLY



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Superior 128D

I first came across the C128D at the Which Computer Show at Birmingham NEC during early January and at first glance had taken it for the AMIGA. The processor box is much the same size and appears to be modelled on the AMIGA. This box houses the 1571 disk drive, main pcb and power supply and is sufficient in strength to support a colour monitor.

The front of the machine has just two led's, a prominent power indicator is coloured red, whilst the disk drive indicator is green which also functions as the drive error light. The left-hand side sports a substantial carrying handle which seems unnecessary since the unit is light and small enough to be carried underarm without discomfort. The rear of the machine contains the sockets for 240 volt power supply and the usual assortment of standard Commodore input/output sockets. There are also two large prongs looking like flattened bull horns which at first I took to be some kind of arrangement for looping cable around or hanging the machine up by! It was only when I plugged in my Commodore modem to check out this end of the machine's abilities that I realised their true purpose. The expansion and user ports are quite high off the base and heavy attachments such as the modem would be supported only by their pins and boards, not good engineering. These solid 'bull horns' solve this in an elegant manner by offering the required support, a very neat arrangement. The right hand side of the processor box has the two usual joystick ports, a 25 pin D-socket for the keyboard connector and two reset buttons. One is the main reset, whilst the other is for the drive only. This latter one is slightly recessed and needs something the diameter of a knitting needle in order to access it.

The keyboard assembly is identical in layout to the C128 although the keys appear to have a more polished feel to them. There are also two legs to the base of the keyboard-allowing the user to have it tilted if required, again demonstrating the keen attention paid to design detail by Commodore.

"Substance and quality"

I found using the C128D to be a different machine to it's brother the C128, altogether a machine of substance and quality, far removed from it's home computer origins. There is no doubt in my mind that is entirely due to the 1571 drive - operating the C128/1541 configuration before was like trying to swim fully-clothed, exhausting.

The 1571 drive in GCR format mode is, from a hardware point of view, not very far removed from the 1541. It gains the additional capacity by reading and writing an additional 35 tracks on the other side of

Commodore's 128D with integral drive is found to be a machine of 'substance and quality'.

the disk. I found that all of my single-sided disks would accept this format, which released a not inconsiderable quantity of disks for re-use. It was necessary to ensure that the disks to be formatted were completely bare, ie 'wiped' by magnet otherwise the 1571 would, on detecting a 1541 formatted disk would understandably assume, that you wanted it to behave as a 1541. It gains the fast operating speed from the so-called 'burst serial mode' which employs an unused SERVICE REQUEST line on the Commodore serial bus. This line is controlled by hardware and does not affect the data being read, although this mode is only operative during the read and not the

"Decent capacity"

In MFM mode, the 1571 gives access to CP/M 80 and the C128D is supplied with Version 3.0 of CP/M or CP/M PLUS to give it the correct title. The system disk has been well laundered by either Commodore or Digital Research to remove the best utilities and the lack of an assembler I found not very amusing. However, if you found that burst mode GCR was fast, then MFM mode is even faster and the CP/M PLUS disk loads very fast indeed. It is this feature that really makes the C128D into a respectable CP/M machine. Not only does the drive have multi-format capabilities, which are programmable, it also has a decent (by CP/M standards) capacity. The disk drive engineering team at Commodore may have kept us waiting for an excessive amount of time, but they have vindicated themselves by providing an advanced drive unit.

The documentation supplied with the C128D I received consisted of three manuals, two of which were specific to the C128 although the differences to an existing Commodore user would be apparent. The third manual related to the 1571 drive and once more the same situation applied for new users, that is new to personal computers, a short introductory text wouldn't go amiss. The package also included the 1571 demo disk with the praised 'DOS Shell' program which made life simple for file transfer, although I would have liked to have seen a Centronics printer driver from the User Port in with this.

At the time of writing I have not received the Commodore 1901 monochrome monitor although I found no problems using my Philips 7502 green monitor for 40

or 80 column display. The only hiccup that did appear in this direction was obtaining the necessary 9 pin D-plug, most shops could only offer the female sockets as used in joysticks, however Tandy were successful as usual though at a price.

"Greater perceived quality"

The C128D is targeted at the small business and serious home user market, so let's examine each from the users point of view. The small business market is potentially very profitable and largely unexploited. The direction competition here stems from the Amstrad PCW256 and 6128. Amstrad have a tradition of supplying consumer electronic products at a low price. Whilst by and large they do the job, the price reflects the quality and although the specifications may read impressive, in use it is a different story. The keyboard of the PCW256 is cramped and feels cheap, the disk capacity for serious applications is too small and the disk size is not an industry standard. Commodore themselves learned the hard way about industry standards in terms of disk formats thus AMIGA and the 1571 drive are open in this context.

For the serious home user the C128D has the benefits of an established software base in the C64 and a growing amount of C128 software.

Any complaints about the C128D? Well, just minor ones which hopefully will be attended to when revision time comes around. I would have liked to have seen the facility to store the keyboard underneath the processor box and thus save space. Also, a drive device number switch made available externally would be useful and convenient for those of us retaining 1541's. Finally, the RGBI port does not have an audio output, this can only be obtained from the 40 column port meaning an additional cable running to the monitor. Two of the pins on the RGBI socket are earth pins thus one of these is surplus to requirements, the extraneous one should be connected and used for audio output.

In summary the C128D proves once more that if Commodore try hard enough they can come up with the products that we want. This machine will be a success, not because it has BASIC 7.0 or CP/M PLUS or C64 compatibilities since none of these elements guarantee anything, what it does have is that indefinable charisma of superiority in looks and feel. These are the determining factors for first-time buyers, for existing Commodore users here's a machine that we are familiar with but are not now afraid to admit to others that we own.

Bill Donald

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In fact "Freeze Frame" is the **ultimate utility**, it works on the program in memory and allows you to make a back up of that program onto tape or disc. The beauty being that the saved version is first loading and in the case of disc backups no longer has drive damaging DOS errors. The process is **completely automatic** no knowledge of BASIC or machine language is required, just follow the prompts and the simple instructions for **amazing results**.

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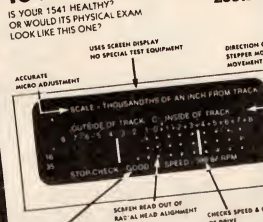
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HELLO SFD1001 — GOODBYE 1541!

Precision Software decided that to fully explore and utilise the facilities offered by their mainstream products SUPERBASE and SUPERScript in certain applications a higher capacity was needed, greater than even the 360K Bytes of the 1571 drive. They looked across the Atlantic and found that 1M Byte Commodore SFD 1001 drive gave the capacity needed, and for even more intensive demands the 10 MByte ST10C hard disk was eminently suitable.

The SFD 1001 drive uses Commodore DOS version 2.5 rather than DOS 2.1 of the 1541, 1570 and 1571 drives, which means that it employs 77 tracks as opposed to 35 tracks. There are a total of 4,133 blocks free on a formatted disk, which gives a capacity of slightly in excess of 1 MByte. Command syntax is identical, the computer has no interest in what drive you have hung on to it, so no problems learning how to operate and live with it. This drive uses the PET IEEE interface method which is far the quickest yet found on any Commodore drives. Externally, the unit looks identical to the 1541 and it was only by placing alongside a 1541 that I realised that it was marginally larger in length (by less than 1.0 inch), the other dimensions remained unchanged. Since this unit is derived from the business machines genre of Commodore drives this surprised me, the old 4040, 8250 and 8050 were all large, weighty beasts

"A joy to use"

In use the SFD 1001 was a joy to use and I was extremely reluctant to see it go back to Precision, so much so that I bought it, (sounds like Victor Kiam with his Remington razors!). It fully supports BASIC 4.0 commands and after the 1541, boy is it fast! SUPERBASE and SUPERScript loaded into a C64 or C128 in just about 60 seconds, PGM files zipped in so

In certain applications, a capacity greater than even the 360KBytes of the 1571 disk drive is required. Bill Donald looks at Precision's 1MByte SFD1001 drive

quickly that at times I hadn't realised that the drive was finished. However the most notable saving came with the use of disks. Because of the increased capacity, I found that one SFD disk could equate to five 1541 disks and since there was no need to change the media in any way, by transferring files to a SFD disk from a 1541 disk cut down considerably the number of disks in circulation and released a large quantity for re-use! The SFD 1001 is supplied with a Commodore Utility Disk with much the same sort of material as that supplied with 1541, thus making file transfer, disk editing and software device number changes simple. This utilities disk covers the C64, C128 and the earlier PET machines, so it is fairly comprehensive.

The package from Precision includes an IEEE interface which fits into the expansion port of the C64 or C128 without obscuring the cassette port. This interface also includes a Centronics printer driver, so I found that I could run my Epson RX80F/T from the user port of either machine. An IEEE connecting cable is also included, watch out for this one when buying IEEE items, the cables are now in excess of £40.00 each so make sure that one is in with the price — they are not cheap!

Fellow PLUS/4 users are not, as yet catered for, although Precision did indicate that they would consider introducing an interface for the PLUS/4 if there was sufficient demand, so over to you PLUS/4 users (the PLUS/4 expansion port has 50 pins at

a finer pitch than the 44 pins of the C64, C128 expansion port). This same interface also uses the Commodore DOS Wedge routine when it detects the controller is a C64, the location of this being \$C000 which is out of the way of BASIC. All in all, the IEEE interface is a very useful piece of firmware in it's own right.

The ST10C hard disk drive is aimed at users with a severe demand on the applications software supplied by Precision such as a small business, club secretaries, private libraries, etc. So if you run a SUPERBASE system containing 10,000 records or need to write a book of 500 pages using SUPERScript then contact Precision. My use of this drive was limited to writing these words before your eyes with SUPERScript. It's speed at doing a spell check was astonishing, virtually instantaneous detection of the (numerous!) errors, and I seemed hard pushed at the keyboard trying to keep up making the amendments.

"Vast increase in operating speed"

Any drawbacks to the SFD 1001? Well none that I could find immediately, although I would expect that some protected software would make an objection to the IEEE interface. The CP/M option of the C128 did not want to work, presumably because of the structure of the memory map under CP/M, although I said earlier that for serious use of the CP/M option of the C128 the

1571 double headed drive was virtually mandatory.

The benefits of the SFD 1001 can be pointed to in three areas. The first is in operating speed, a vast increase which is particularly noticeable on applications that have frequent disk access. The second being storage capacity which can be measured in terms of fewer disk changes and, if you have a large 1541 disk library, the cost saving on purchasing further disks. The final point and perhaps not as obvious is that of hardware compatibility — most readers of CCI probably have more than one machine and the problem of being able to use the any of the peripherals is quite important, not least because of the cost. With the exception of my PLUS/4 and naturally my AMIGA, the SFD 1001 performed flawlessly on the C64, C128 and VIC-20. I would mention in passing that the AMIGA does contain a highly intelligent disk controller circuit, so intelligent in fact that it can read and write 'GCR format disks, as Michael Caine would say "not many people know that"! Thus given a suitable software driver and a rehash of the connecting cables you could even interface an SFD 1001 to the AMIGA, alternatively you could be really silly and use a 1541 (ugh!).

The SFD 1001 is a drive that anyone contemplating the purchase of a 1570 or 1571 should look at without exception. Unless you have CP/M aspirations there is really no contest and the 1541 drive is simply swept out of contention. The cost/benefit ratio for this drive make it almost impossible to ignore for any serious Commodore computer user. The price of the SFD 1001 1MByte 5.25 inch drive including IEEE interface with integral Centronics printer driver and IEEE cable is £309.25 including VAT. As both an impressed reviewer and satisfied purchaser I can recommend this drive.

TDI Modula-2 for Amiga

TDI Software Ltd, the Bristol based software house have recently announced their Modula-2 for the Commodore Amiga. In its Amiga form Modula-2 will offer a multi-pass compiler, a linker, and a Library with full interface to the Amiga's system software including graphics, menus, mice, windows and several demonstration programs.

Modula-2 is a language designed to encourage the user to write in modules. Thereby making software easy to design, write and maintain. Pascal programmers, in particular, should be able to learn the language in two days.

TDI Modula-2/Amiga is immediately available from TDI Software for £99.95 inclusive of VAT and P&P. TDI can be contacted on 0272 742796

MPS-801 Descender

The latest product from that hotbed of activity, MPS software, is a true descender ROM for the Commodore MPS-801 and Seikosha GP-500.

By completely redesigning the character set and then blowing it into chip form, MPS have created a much more pleasing effect that really does make a difference in the legibility of your printer.

Fitting requires no technical expertise whatsoever and should take less than 10 minutes.

Descender ROM costs £14.95, and you can get hold of it from MPS Software, 36 Alexandra Grove, London N4 2LF. Tel: 01-800 3592.

Indepth on Indev

Information Developments (INDEV), is a new company just started by software expert Robert Harris. Harris is associated with products for mini-computers or PC's, it is therefore suprising that INDEV's first product is for the 64, but as MR White puts it "we had a couple gathering dust..."

Blinker-64 is this product, and a very interesting sounding one it is too. If you're interested in basic programming then it

could be a must. Those of you who are used to assemblers will know that a linker is used to join different modules of code into one program, well Blinker-64 does this for basic. Not to be confused with little programs which let you merge two programs, Blinker will allow you to use your favourite subroutines just by linking them successfully everytime.

Available almost immediately, and suitable for anyone who has a 64 and one or more

1541's (phone for details of 128 and 1570/71) — it really means that you can write many small routines each doing something separately, then let Blinker join them. It will do all the renumbering, and even allow you to append data statements and machine code on later.

A full review of this novel and useful sounding product soon, meanwhile contact R. Harris for further details on: 07372 22755.

Credit Card Memory

Cumana, better known for their disk drives for the BBC and QL are announcing a step forward in memory storage (or that's what they say). The Astron Integrated Storage Device, a product developed by Astar International, is a solid state memory device in a credit sized

card.

Although I have not yet seen them working, by this time next month I should be able to report on how everything is getting on, and more importantly how and whether they work! Watch this space.....



Demodiscs from Olivetti

All you Commodore PC owners out there will be interested to hear that Olivetti, in all their wisdom, have released a new label in floppy disks. Demodiscs are the same Diaspron disks Olivetti usually sell except that each disk from a box of 10 has a demonstration of a leading PC software package.

This gives users the opportunity to look at packages

they may otherwise not bother with, and compare them to what they are currently using. Having looked at the Demos, the disks can be used as normal.

Some of the demos you get include; Wordstar 2000, Supercalc 3, GEM (Digital Researches mouse environment) and Word (Microsofts WP).

Contact: Olivetti on 01-785 6666.

128 Help

All you 128 owners who suddenly found out they need a £300 Commodore 1901 to make the most of the machines potential will be very relieved to hear that ROBTEX, formerly ROBCOM, have produced an interface to allow you 80 columns for only £14.95. You can also switch between 40 and 80 columns by pressing a switch.

For more details contact: ROBTEK, 36 Market Place, Fallonden Way, London, NW11 6JP. Tel: 01-209 0118.

More from Microlink

Microlink, a part of Telecom Gold, has just announced two new services of possible interest to subscribers. First is Weatherlink. This allows all you budding Ian McCaskills out there to receive the official satellite pictures of our country beamed from space. Using special software you can then turn that data into pictures.

Launched in February

Microlink say (and I quote!) "you will be able to predict sunshine or showers with all the accuracy of the men from the Met office", come on! If they can't do it, how are we supposed to??

The second new service Microlink offer is Floralink. Although we have let you know too late for St Valentines day, this service means that

subscribers to Telecom Gold can order flowers around the clock, and get them sent via Interflora's network of 2,700 stores in England and Eire (though not on Sundays!).

All budding Romeos who want to 'say it with Roses' but have grown too attached to their computer should contact MicroLink, quick! On 061-429 8451.

Commodore 64 disk drive printer. Easy Script, Easy File, Intro to Basic, Six game disc, all books, manuals. Delivery or postage included. As new. Items sold separately £450 o.n.o. Tel: 03552 26783.

Norwegian CBM 64 owner wants to swap software with everybody. Swap tape or disk. Send list to: Lars Goran Dorum Ostmo, Gundersensvei 5, 1600 FREDRIKSTAD, Norway.

CBM 64 C2N cassette, 1520 plotter, Simons Basic, Entrepo Quick Datadrive, software and magazines. V.G.C. £300. Phone 0442 67373 after 4.00pm. (Hemel Hempstead)

Finish 64 user, 16, wants penfriend in Europe, Scandinavia or England to exchange games, ideas, tips, etc. Write to Christian Hanninen, Degerbynkatu 7, 07900 Lousiisa, Finland.

For sale for PET - 6502 Assembler, Microchess, D.T.L. compiler and Visicalc. Open to offers. Phone: 0455 615602 after 7pm.

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VIC 20 intro to Basic pt.1.£8. Book on VIC programmes £2. 16K switchable ram pack £28. Cartridge games £3.50, 2 expanded games £1.50 each, un-expanded £5 or £1.50 each. Ring: 449 9240 (evenings).

Commodore 64 computer plus 1541 disc drive £250. Interpod, Interface £30. Tel: (0992) 444640.

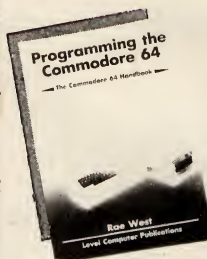
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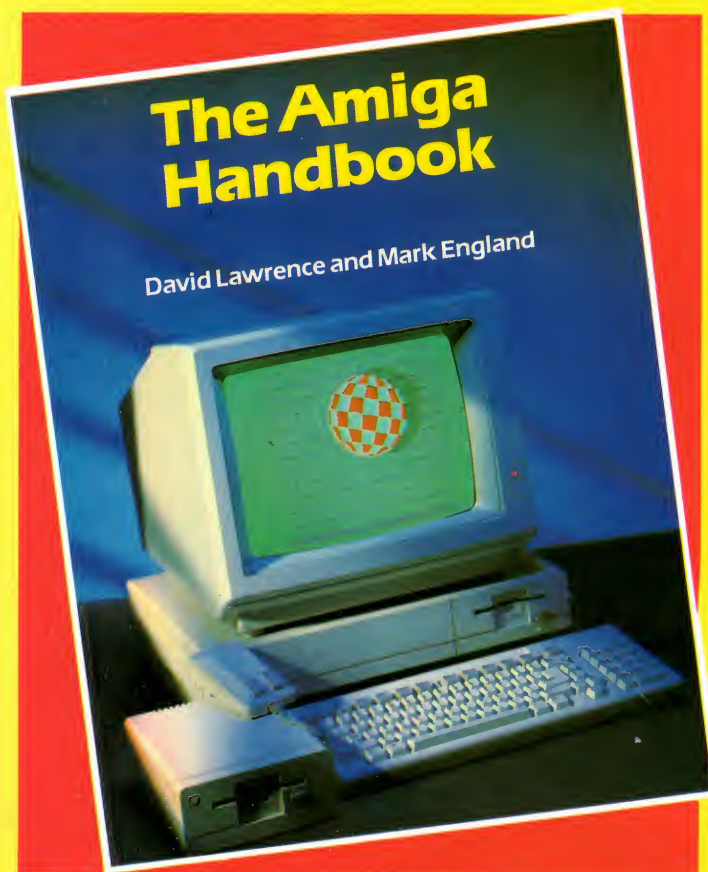
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